



Australian Bureau of Statistics

DECEMBER 2008

6202.0

LABOUR FORCE

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) THURS 15 JAN 2009

KEY FIGURES

	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Nov 08 to Dec 08	Dec 07 to Dec 08
Trend				
Employed persons ('000)	10 747.4	10 749.4	2.0	1.3 %
Unemployed persons ('000)	493.0	498.1	5.1	7.1 %
Unemployment rate (%)	4.4	4.4	0.0 pts	0.2 pts
Participation rate (%)	65.1	65.0	0.0 pts	-0.2 pts
Seasonally Adjusted				
Employed persons ('000)	10 743.5	10 742.3	-1.2	1.3 %
Unemployed persons ('000)	498.5	501.1	2.6	7.6 %
Unemployment rate (%)	4.4	4.5	0.0 pts	0.3 pts
Participation rate (%)	65.1	65.0	-0.1 pts	-0.2 pts

KEY POINTS

TREND ESTIMATES (MONTHLY CHANGE)

- EMPLOYMENT increased to 10,749,400
- UNEMPLOYMENT increased to 498,100
- UNEMPLOYMENT RATE remained steady at 4.4%
- PARTICIPATION RATE remained steady at 65.0%

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES (MONTHLY CHANGE)

EMPLOYMENT

- decreased by 1,200 to 10,742,300. Full-time employment decreased by 43,900 to 7,640,200 and part-time employment increased by 42,800 to 3,102,200.

UNEMPLOYMENT

- increased by 2,600 to 501,100. The number of persons looking for full-time work increased by 2,600 to 349,400 and the number of persons looking for part-time work remained steady at 151,700.

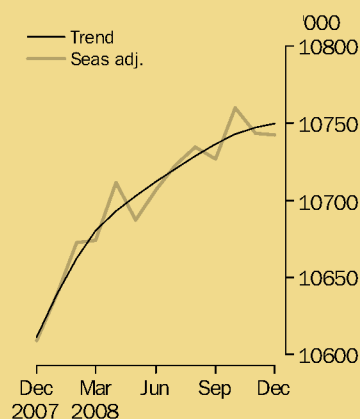
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- remained steady at 4.5%. The male unemployment rate increased by 0.3 percentage points to 4.4%, and the female unemployment rate decreased by 0.3 percentage points to 4.5%.

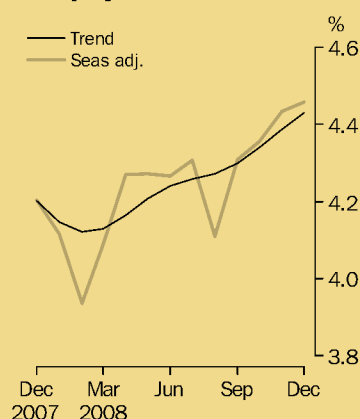
PARTICIPATION RATE

- decreased by 0.1 percentage point to 65.0%.

Employed Persons



Unemployment rate



INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Steve Wood on Canberra (02) 6252 6525.

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
January 2009	12 February 2009
February 2009	12 March 2009
March 2009	9 April 2009
April 2009	7 May 2009
May 2009	11 June 2009
June 2009	9 July 2009

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ROUNDING

Estimates of monthly change shown on the front cover have been calculated using unrounded estimates, and may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded estimates. The graphs on the front cover also depict unrounded estimates.

SAMPLING ERRORS

The estimates in this publication are based on a sample survey. Because the entire population is not enumerated, the published estimates and the movements derived from them are subject to sampling variability. Standard errors give a measure of this variability and appear on pages 28 and 29.

The 95% confidence intervals below provide another way of looking at the variability inherent in estimates from sample surveys. The interval bounded by the two limits is the 95% confidence interval, which represents a 95% chance that the true value of the estimate lies within that interval.

MOVEMENTS IN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES BETWEEN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2008

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	<u>Monthly change</u>	<u>95% Confidence interval</u>		
Total Employment	-1 200	-62 000	to	59 600
Total Unemployment	2 600	-29 600	to	34 800
Unemployment rate	0.0 pts	-0.2 pts	to	0.2 pts
Participation rate	-0.1 pts	-0.5 pts	to	0.3 pts

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Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

FORTHCOMING CHANGES

REVISION OF POPULATION BENCHMARKS

Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates of persons employed, unemployed and not in the labour force are calculated to add up to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 and over, referred to as population benchmarks. For the LFS estimates these population benchmarks are based on Census of Population and Housing (Census) data, adjusted for under-enumeration and updated for births, deaths, interstate migration, and net permanent and long term migration. Revisions are made to population benchmarks after each five-yearly Census.

From the February 2009 issue of the *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) and subsequent associated Labour Force releases, LFS estimates will be compiled using population benchmarks based on results from the 2006 Census. Additionally, for the period June 2001 to January 2009, LFS estimates will be revised based on the 2006 population benchmarks. The revised estimates will also be available with the release of the February 2009 issue of this publication on 12 March 2009.

REVISION OF LABOUR FORCE SURVEY STATISTICAL REGIONS

LFS Statistical Region boundaries are revised at each sample redesign to align with the *Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)* (cat. no. 1216.0). From the February 2009 issues of *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003), regional estimates will be produced based on the 2006 LFS Statistical Regions. Additionally, LFS estimates will be revised back to November 2007 based on the new regions. For further details, see *Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design* (cat. no. 6269.0).

CLASSIFICATION OF INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION

From the February 2009 issue of *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003) the industry and occupation employment estimates will be based on new classification structures.

Industry will be classified to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006. This classification system will replace the existing classification ANZSIC 1993, for the periods November 1984 to the current release. Industry data will continue to be collected in the LFS to the Group (3 digit) level. For more information on the implementation of ANZSIC 2006 see *Information Paper: update on ANZSIC 2008 Implementation, 2006* (cat. no. 1295.0.55.001).

Occupation will be classified to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO). This classification system will replace the classification Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) Second Edition, introduced in August 1996. Occupation data will continue to be collected in the LFS to the Unit Group (4 digit) level. For more information on the implementation of ANZSCO see *Information Paper: ANZSCO – Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 2005* (cat. no. 1221.0).

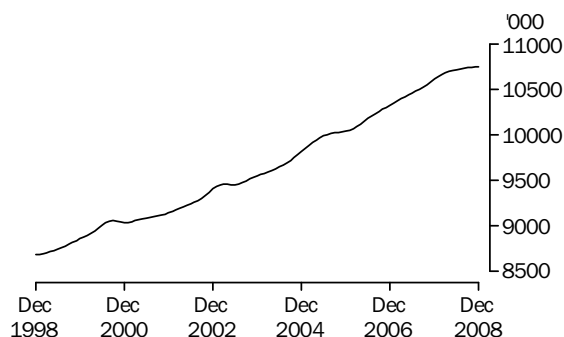
TIME SERIES SPREADSHEETS

On the ABS website, the February 2009 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) will include its corresponding time series spreadsheets on the same catalogue number. These spreadsheets are currently found at *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001), which will cease following the January 2009 issue on 12 February 2009.

PRINCIPAL LABOUR FORCE SERIES TREND ESTIMATES

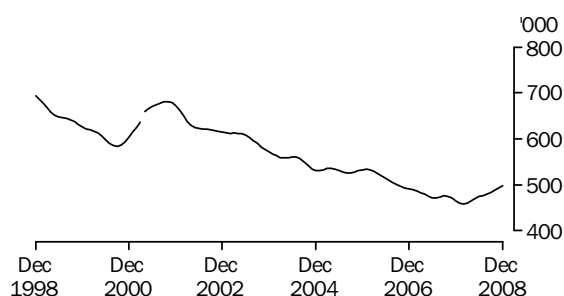
EMPLOYED PERSONS

The trend estimate of employed persons rose from 8,685,100 in December 1998 to 9,056,500 in September 2000. The trend then fell slightly to 9,037,700 in December 2000, before generally rising to stand at 10,749,400 in December 2008.



UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

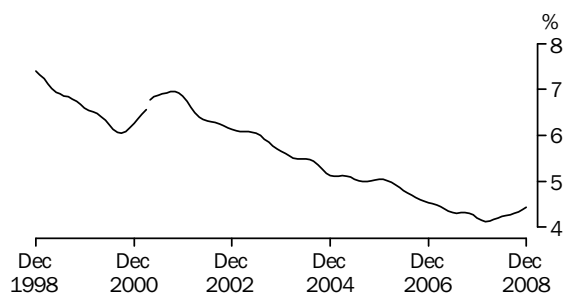
The trend estimate of unemployed persons fell from 694,200 in December 1998 to 583,000 in September 2000, before rising to stand at 681,200 in October 2001. The trend generally fell to 458,300 in February 2008, before rising to stand at 498,100 in December 2008.



Series break at April 2001; see paragraph 16 of Explanatory Notes.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The trend unemployment rate generally fell from 7.4% in December 1998 to 6.1% in October 2000, before rising to 7.0% in October 2001. The trend generally fell to 4.1% in February 2008, before rising slightly to stand at 4.4% in December 2008.

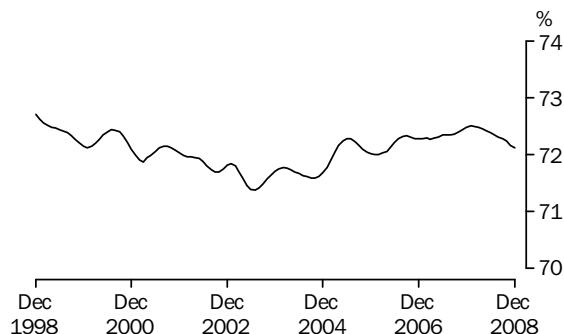


Series break at April 2001; see paragraph 16 of Explanatory Notes.

PARTICIPATION RATE TREND SERIES

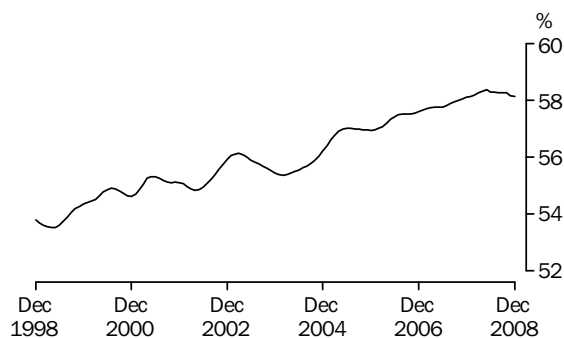
MALES

The trend estimate of the male participation rate generally fell from 72.7% in December 1998 to 71.3% in July 2003. The trend then generally rose to 72.5% in February 2008, before falling to stand at 72.1% in December 2008.



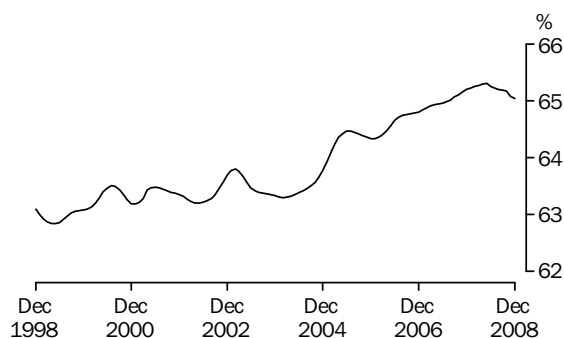
FEMALES

The trend estimate of the female participation rate generally rose from 53.8% in December 1998 to 56.1% in March 2003. After falling to 55.4% in February 2004, the trend then rose to 58.3% in June 2008 before falling to stand at 58.1% in December 2008.



PERSONS

The trend estimate of the participation rate fell from 63.1% in December 1998 to 62.8% in May 1999. The trend, although fluctuating, generally rose to 65.3% in April 2008. The trend has since fallen to stand at 65.0% in December 2008.



LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER): Trend

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	<i>Full time</i>	<i>Part time</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Looking for f/t work</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Labour force</i>	<i>Looking for f/t work</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Participation rate</i>
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MALES									
December 2005	4 721.3	809.7	5 531.0	229.4	291.1	5 822.2	4.6	5.0	72.0
December 2006	4 814.3	869.3	5 683.6	202.7	255.0	5 938.7	4.0	4.3	72.2
2007									
December	4 954.9	883.5	5 838.4	180.3	236.3	6 074.8	3.5	3.9	72.5
2008									
January	4 960.8	892.4	5 853.2	179.8	234.4	6 087.6	3.5	3.9	72.5
February	4 965.3	898.9	5 864.2	180.4	234.1	6 098.3	3.5	3.8	72.5
March	4 970.7	900.3	5 871.0	182.3	235.6	6 106.6	3.5	3.9	72.5
April	4 978.7	896.1	5 874.8	185.1	238.2	6 113.0	3.6	3.9	72.5
May	4 989.6	888.3	5 877.9	187.7	241.2	6 119.0	3.6	3.9	72.4
June	5 002.1	880.3	5 882.4	188.7	242.7	6 125.0	3.6	4.0	72.4
July	5 013.4	874.2	5 887.6	188.3	242.8	6 130.4	3.6	4.0	72.3
August	5 021.3	871.1	5 892.4	188.5	243.2	6 135.6	3.6	4.0	72.3
September	5 025.1	870.6	5 895.7	190.8	245.7	6 141.4	3.7	4.0	72.2
October	5 025.5	872.1	5 897.6	194.9	250.1	6 147.8	3.7	4.1	72.2
November	5 024.5	874.1	5 898.7	199.6	255.2	6 153.9	3.8	4.1	72.2
December	5 020.8	877.5	5 898.3	204.3	260.3	6 158.6	3.9	4.2	72.1
FEMALES									
December 2005	2 444.5	2 065.1	4 509.5	149.2	241.8	4 751.4	5.8	5.1	56.9
December 2006	2 563.8	2 075.5	4 639.3	146.4	235.5	4 874.8	5.4	4.8	57.6
2007									
December	2 651.1	2 121.8	4 772.9	129.5	229.0	5 001.8	4.7	4.6	58.1
2008									
January	2 659.1	2 126.9	4 786.0	128.7	225.8	5 011.8	4.6	4.5	58.1
February	2 664.3	2 133.8	4 798.2	128.6	224.2	5 022.4	4.6	4.5	58.2
March	2 668.1	2 141.3	4 809.3	129.4	224.6	5 033.9	4.6	4.5	58.2
April	2 671.5	2 146.9	4 818.4	130.8	226.5	5 044.9	4.7	4.5	58.3
May	2 674.8	2 150.2	4 825.0	132.6	229.0	5 054.0	4.7	4.5	58.3
June	2 676.9	2 152.6	4 829.5	135.1	231.7	5 061.2	4.8	4.6	58.3
July	2 676.6	2 156.2	4 832.8	137.7	234.0	5 066.8	4.9	4.6	58.3
August	2 673.5	2 162.9	4 836.4	140.0	235.6	5 072.0	5.0	4.6	58.3
September	2 668.0	2 172.8	4 840.8	141.9	236.5	5 077.3	5.1	4.7	58.2
October	2 660.6	2 184.4	4 845.0	143.2	237.3	5 082.3	5.1	4.7	58.2
November	2 652.4	2 196.3	4 848.7	143.8	237.8	5 086.5	5.1	4.7	58.2
December	2 644.9	2 206.1	4 851.1	143.4	237.8	5 088.9	5.1	4.7	58.1
PERSONS									
December 2005	7 165.8	2 874.8	10 040.6	378.6	533.0	10 573.5	5.0	5.0	64.3
December 2006	7 378.1	2 944.9	10 322.9	349.1	490.5	10 813.5	4.5	4.5	64.8
2007									
December	7 605.9	3 005.4	10 611.3	309.8	465.3	11 076.6	3.9	4.2	65.2
2008									
January	7 619.9	3 019.3	10 639.2	308.4	460.2	11 099.4	3.9	4.1	65.2
February	7 629.6	3 032.7	10 662.3	309.0	458.3	11 120.6	3.9	4.1	65.3
March	7 638.7	3 041.6	10 680.3	311.8	460.1	11 140.5	3.9	4.1	65.3
April	7 650.2	3 042.9	10 693.2	316.0	464.7	11 157.9	4.0	4.2	65.3
May	7 664.4	3 038.5	10 702.9	320.3	470.2	11 173.1	4.0	4.2	65.3
June	7 679.0	3 032.9	10 711.9	323.7	474.4	11 186.2	4.0	4.2	65.3
July	7 690.0	3 030.4	10 720.4	326.0	476.8	11 197.1	4.1	4.3	65.2
August	7 694.9	3 034.0	10 728.8	328.5	478.8	11 207.6	4.1	4.3	65.2
September	7 693.1	3 043.4	10 736.4	332.8	482.3	11 218.7	4.1	4.3	65.1
October	7 686.1	3 056.5	10 742.6	338.1	487.5	11 230.1	4.2	4.3	65.1
November	7 676.9	3 070.5	10 747.4	343.4	493.0	11 240.4	4.3	4.4	65.1
December	7 665.7	3 083.7	10 749.4	347.6	498.1	11 247.6	4.3	4.4	65.0

LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER): Seasonally Adjusted

	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Full time	Part time	Looking for f/t work		Total	Labour force	Looking for f/t work	Total	Participation rate
	'000	'000	Total	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MALES									
December 2005	4 721.8	809.5	5 531.3	226.4	289.3	5 820.6	4.6	5.0	71.9
December 2006	4 820.2	882.1	5 702.3	198.6	247.4	5 949.7	4.0	4.2	72.3
2007									
December	4 953.4	881.7	5 835.1	187.7	245.7	6 080.8	3.7	4.0	72.6
2008									
January	4 957.7	911.6	5 869.3	169.8	224.5	6 093.8	3.3	3.7	72.6
February	4 974.8	896.9	5 871.7	163.2	216.0	6 087.7	3.2	3.5	72.4
March	4 965.0	899.0	5 864.1	187.6	239.8	6 103.9	3.6	3.9	72.5
April	4 986.0	886.2	5 872.2	196.6	246.4	6 118.6	3.8	4.0	72.5
May	4 965.6	904.5	5 870.1	190.0	244.4	6 114.5	3.7	4.0	72.4
June	5 003.7	886.0	5 889.7	187.8	246.9	6 136.7	3.6	4.0	72.5
July	5 021.5	862.2	5 883.7	184.9	240.4	6 124.0	3.6	3.9	72.3
August	5 038.7	853.9	5 892.6	187.0	234.7	6 127.4	3.6	3.8	72.2
September	5 020.4	878.8	5 899.1	190.2	247.7	6 146.8	3.7	4.0	72.3
October	5 025.9	876.1	5 902.0	191.3	247.6	6 149.6	3.7	4.0	72.2
November	5 021.2	875.8	5 897.1	197.8	252.7	6 149.8	3.8	4.1	72.1
December	5 013.5	879.8	5 893.3	215.4	272.7	6 165.9	4.1	4.4	72.1
FEMALES									
December 2005	2 440.7	2 067.6	4 508.3	146.5	240.5	4 748.8	5.7	5.1	56.9
December 2006	2 571.3	2 071.0	4 642.4	149.8	241.7	4 884.1	5.5	4.9	57.7
2007									
December	2 656.6	2 117.1	4 773.7	130.1	219.8	4 993.5	4.7	4.4	58.0
2008									
January	2 645.1	2 124.8	4 769.9	126.6	232.2	5 002.2	4.6	4.6	58.0
February	2 669.7	2 131.3	4 801.0	127.5	221.2	5 022.2	4.6	4.4	58.2
March	2 672.3	2 137.5	4 809.7	126.3	215.2	5 024.9	4.5	4.3	58.1
April	2 670.1	2 169.1	4 839.2	140.2	231.2	5 070.4	5.0	4.6	58.6
May	2 676.3	2 140.6	4 816.9	127.5	232.4	5 049.3	4.5	4.6	58.2
June	2 658.0	2 158.8	4 816.8	131.9	230.0	5 046.8	4.7	4.6	58.1
July	2 693.8	2 145.3	4 839.1	142.5	242.2	5 081.3	5.0	4.8	58.5
August	2 678.5	2 163.2	4 841.7	137.5	225.2	5 066.8	4.9	4.4	58.2
September	2 669.0	2 158.6	4 827.6	139.5	235.2	5 062.8	5.0	4.6	58.1
October	2 653.6	2 204.1	4 857.7	148.9	242.4	5 100.1	5.3	4.8	58.4
November	2 662.9	2 183.5	4 846.4	149.0	245.8	5 092.2	5.3	4.8	58.2
December	2 626.7	2 222.3	4 849.0	134.1	228.5	5 077.5	4.9	4.5	58.0
PERSONS									
December 2005	7 162.5	2 877.1	10 039.6	372.9	529.8	10 569.4	4.9	5.0	64.3
December 2006	7 391.6	2 953.1	10 344.7	348.4	489.2	10 833.8	4.5	4.5	64.9
2007									
December	7 610.0	2 998.8	10 608.8	317.8	465.5	11 074.3	4.0	4.2	65.2
2008									
January	7 602.8	3 036.4	10 639.3	296.4	456.7	11 095.9	3.8	4.1	65.2
February	7 644.5	3 028.2	10 672.7	290.6	437.3	11 110.0	3.7	3.9	65.2
March	7 637.3	3 036.5	10 673.8	313.9	455.0	11 128.8	3.9	4.1	65.2
April	7 656.1	3 055.3	10 711.4	336.8	477.6	11 189.0	4.2	4.3	65.5
May	7 641.9	3 045.1	10 687.0	317.5	476.8	11 163.8	4.0	4.3	65.2
June	7 661.8	3 044.8	10 706.5	319.7	477.0	11 183.5	4.0	4.3	65.2
July	7 715.3	3 007.5	10 722.8	327.4	482.5	11 205.3	4.1	4.3	65.3
August	7 717.2	3 017.1	10 734.3	324.4	459.9	11 194.2	4.0	4.1	65.1
September	7 689.3	3 037.3	10 726.7	329.7	482.9	11 209.6	4.1	4.3	65.1
October	7 679.5	3 080.2	10 759.7	340.2	490.1	11 249.8	4.2	4.4	65.2
November	7 684.1	3 059.4	10 743.5	346.8	498.5	11 242.0	4.3	4.4	65.1
December	7 640.2	3 102.2	10 742.3	349.4	501.1	11 243.4	4.4	4.5	65.0

LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER): Original

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			Civilian population aged 15 years and over	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Labour force		Not in labour force	Looking for f/t work	Total	Participation rate
'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%	
MALES											
December 2005	4 782.2	811.8	5 594.0	223.4	289.6	5 883.5	2 207.3	8 090.8	4.5	4.9	72.7
December 2006	4 876.2	886.0	5 762.2	197.9	249.2	6 011.4	2 214.6	8 226.1	3.9	4.1	73.1
2007											
December	5 007.3	886.8	5 894.1	189.0	250.1	6 144.2	2 236.3	8 380.5	3.6	4.1	73.3
2008											
January	4 960.4	873.1	5 833.5	194.4	252.0	6 085.4	2 308.9	8 394.3	3.8	4.1	72.5
February	4 997.0	867.1	5 864.0	181.3	241.2	6 105.2	2 303.1	8 408.3	3.5	4.0	72.6
March	4 948.5	920.0	5 868.5	188.4	247.2	6 115.7	2 306.5	8 422.2	3.7	4.0	72.6
April	4 963.2	908.6	5 871.8	198.9	249.7	6 121.6	2 313.0	8 434.6	3.9	4.1	72.6
May	4 951.7	909.3	5 861.0	190.5	246.4	6 107.4	2 339.8	8 447.2	3.7	4.0	72.3
June	4 981.0	913.7	5 894.7	184.7	237.6	6 132.3	2 327.4	8 459.6	3.6	3.9	72.5
July	5 045.2	858.3	5 903.5	167.6	214.4	6 117.9	2 355.2	8 473.1	3.2	3.5	72.2
August	5 007.6	848.0	5 855.6	175.0	218.4	6 074.1	2 412.8	8 486.9	3.4	3.6	71.6
September	5 060.0	869.4	5 929.4	188.6	252.1	6 181.4	2 318.9	8 500.4	3.6	4.1	72.7
October	5 015.8	897.6	5 913.5	181.1	235.3	6 148.8	2 366.8	8 515.6	3.5	3.8	72.2
November	5 011.9	859.0	5 870.9	189.7	237.7	6 108.6	2 422.3	8 530.8	3.6	3.9	71.6
December	5 065.1	885.8	5 950.9	217.0	277.6	6 228.5	2 317.5	8 546.0	4.1	4.5	72.9
FEMALES											
December 2005	2 497.2	2 069.0	4 566.2	147.4	240.4	4 806.6	3 536.7	8 343.3	5.6	5.0	57.6
December 2006	2 630.6	2 075.6	4 706.2	151.6	242.5	4 948.7	3 514.5	8 463.2	5.4	4.9	58.5
2007											
December	2 718.8	2 124.4	4 843.2	131.7	220.2	5 063.4	3 544.1	8 607.6	4.6	4.3	58.8
2008											
January	2 668.6	2 043.2	4 711.8	146.6	250.4	4 962.3	3 657.7	8 620.0	5.2	5.0	57.6
February	2 692.6	2 079.7	4 772.4	149.3	257.4	5 029.7	3 602.9	8 632.6	5.3	5.1	58.3
March	2 647.1	2 162.5	4 809.6	132.3	232.0	5 041.6	3 603.4	8 645.0	4.8	4.6	58.3
April	2 633.6	2 196.5	4 830.1	140.6	235.0	5 065.0	3 591.6	8 656.7	5.1	4.6	58.5
May	2 648.3	2 169.4	4 817.7	126.2	230.5	5 048.2	3 620.2	8 668.4	4.6	4.6	58.2
June	2 634.0	2 197.8	4 831.7	128.5	224.0	5 055.7	3 624.4	8 680.1	4.7	4.4	58.2
July	2 699.8	2 135.5	4 835.3	132.3	222.5	5 057.8	3 635.1	8 692.9	4.7	4.4	58.2
August	2 645.5	2 172.3	4 817.8	126.1	212.5	5 030.3	3 675.5	8 705.7	4.6	4.2	57.8
September	2 731.2	2 153.1	4 884.3	133.9	233.0	5 117.3	3 601.2	8 718.5	4.7	4.6	58.7
October	2 630.6	2 225.8	4 856.4	137.1	224.1	5 080.4	3 652.2	8 732.6	5.0	4.4	58.2
November	2 672.4	2 174.1	4 846.6	137.8	225.0	5 071.6	3 675.2	8 746.7	4.9	4.4	58.0
December	2 686.7	2 231.4	4 918.1	134.6	227.5	5 145.5	3 615.3	8 760.9	4.8	4.4	58.7
PERSONS											
December 2005	7 279.4	2 880.8	10 160.2	370.8	529.9	10 690.1	5 744.0	16 434.1	4.8	5.0	65.0
December 2006	7 506.8	2 961.6	10 468.4	349.5	491.7	10 960.1	5 729.2	16 689.3	4.4	4.5	65.7
2007											
December	7 726.1	3 011.3	10 737.3	320.7	470.3	11 207.7	5 780.4	16 988.1	4.0	4.2	66.0
2008											
January	7 629.0	2 916.3	10 545.3	341.0	502.4	11 047.7	5 966.6	17 014.3	4.3	4.5	64.9
February	7 689.6	2 946.8	10 636.4	330.7	498.5	11 134.9	5 906.0	17 040.9	4.1	4.5	65.3
March	7 595.6	3 082.6	10 678.1	320.7	479.2	11 157.3	5 909.9	17 067.2	4.1	4.3	65.4
April	7 596.8	3 105.1	10 701.9	339.5	484.7	11 186.6	5 904.7	17 091.3	4.3	4.3	65.5
May	7 600.0	3 078.7	10 678.7	316.8	477.0	11 155.7	5 960.0	17 115.7	4.0	4.3	65.2
June	7 615.0	3 111.4	10 726.4	313.2	461.6	11 188.0	5 951.7	17 139.8	4.0	4.1	65.3
July	7 745.0	2 993.8	10 738.8	299.9	436.9	11 175.7	5 990.3	17 166.0	3.7	3.9	65.1
August	7 653.1	3 020.3	10 673.4	301.2	431.0	11 104.3	6 088.3	17 192.6	3.8	3.9	64.6
September	7 791.2	3 022.5	10 813.7	322.5	485.1	11 298.8	5 920.1	17 218.9	4.0	4.3	65.6
October	7 646.4	3 123.4	10 769.8	318.2	459.4	11 229.2	6 019.0	17 248.2	4.0	4.1	65.1
November	7 684.4	3 033.1	10 717.5	327.5	462.7	11 180.1	6 097.4	17 277.6	4.1	4.1	64.7
December	7 751.8	3 117.2	10 869.0	351.6	505.0	11 374.0	5 932.9	17 306.9	4.3	4.4	65.7

LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER)—New South Wales

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					
	<i>Employed full time</i>	<i>Total employed</i>	<i>Total unemp-loyed</i>	<i>Unemp-loyment rate</i>	<i>Partici-pation rate</i>	<i>Employed full time</i>	<i>Total employed</i>	<i>Total unemp-loyed</i>	<i>Unemp-loyment rate</i>	<i>Partici-pation rate</i>	<i>Civilian population aged 15 years and over</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
MALES											
December 2005	1 538.5	1 796.6	105.0	5.5	70.6	1 536.6	1 796.9	104.0	5.5	70.6	2 694.2
December 2006	1 546.6	1 839.2	90.3	4.7	70.8	1 548.6	1 850.5	81.7	4.2	70.9	2 724.8
2007											
December	1 592.2	1 873.4	84.1	4.3	70.9	1 588.7	1 870.6	85.7	4.4	70.8	2 761.8
2008											
January	1 594.7	1 878.5	84.2	4.3	71.0	1 586.2	1 876.1	85.6	4.4	70.9	2 765.0
February	1 597.5	1 884.0	84.6	4.3	71.1	1 595.6	1 886.9	76.6	3.9	70.9	2 768.3
March	1 600.5	1 888.3	85.6	4.3	71.2	1 608.7	1 891.0	84.2	4.3	71.3	2 771.4
April	1 603.0	1 890.0	86.8	4.4	71.3	1 605.8	1 889.4	90.9	4.6	71.4	2 774.5
May	1 604.5	1 889.1	88.2	4.5	71.2	1 597.9	1 888.9	91.3	4.6	71.3	2 777.5
June	1 604.2	1 886.0	89.3	4.5	71.0	1 608.0	1 894.6	88.1	4.4	71.3	2 780.5
July	1 602.1	1 882.0	89.9	4.6	70.8	1 602.0	1 879.0	89.1	4.5	70.7	2 784.1
August	1 598.8	1 878.4	90.5	4.6	70.6	1 597.5	1 867.3	92.2	4.7	70.3	2 787.6
September	1 595.0	1 875.9	91.7	4.7	70.5	1 597.6	1 879.7	84.3	4.3	70.4	2 791.2
October	1 590.9	1 874.4	93.6	4.8	70.4	1 592.9	1 877.6	100.3	5.1	70.8	2 795.0
November	1 586.8	1 873.6	95.7	4.9	70.4	1 583.0	1 870.0	91.3	4.7	70.1	2 798.9
December	1 582.7	1 873.1	97.9	5.0	70.4	1 579.9	1 876.8	102.6	5.2	70.6	2 802.8
FEMALES											
December 2005	813.8	1 464.7	77.2	5.0	55.5	820.2	1 468.9	77.2	5.0	55.6	2 779.0
December 2006	840.0	1 482.2	82.2	5.3	55.7	840.9	1 495.0	87.3	5.5	56.3	2 808.7
2007											
December	864.0	1 524.5	76.9	4.8	56.3	866.1	1 521.9	77.0	4.8	56.2	2 844.6
2008											
January	870.3	1 531.5	75.3	4.7	56.4	865.9	1 527.2	75.7	4.7	56.3	2 847.4
February	875.2	1 536.8	74.6	4.6	56.5	871.1	1 538.4	73.7	4.6	56.6	2 850.2
March	877.9	1 539.8	74.8	4.6	56.6	888.6	1 547.6	74.7	4.6	56.9	2 853.0
April	878.8	1 540.2	75.9	4.7	56.6	877.3	1 545.2	73.0	4.5	56.7	2 855.8
May	878.1	1 537.9	77.6	4.8	56.5	878.4	1 530.1	80.1	5.0	56.3	2 858.6
June	876.0	1 534.0	80.0	5.0	56.4	871.3	1 533.7	80.8	5.0	56.4	2 861.4
July	872.9	1 530.0	82.5	5.1	56.3	874.4	1 531.5	81.8	5.1	56.3	2 864.9
August	869.8	1 527.6	84.9	5.3	56.2	871.5	1 527.4	83.5	5.2	56.2	2 868.4
September	867.3	1 526.8	86.7	5.4	56.2	869.8	1 522.9	87.3	5.4	56.1	2 871.9
October	865.0	1 526.9	88.0	5.4	56.2	857.6	1 524.4	88.6	5.5	56.1	2 875.8
November	863.1	1 527.5	88.7	5.5	56.1	865.1	1 530.0	94.5	5.8	56.4	2 879.6
December	861.8	1 528.1	89.1	5.5	56.1	862.7	1 531.9	82.9	5.1	56.0	2 883.5
PERSONS											
December 2005	2 352.3	3 261.3	182.2	5.3	62.9	2 356.8	3 265.8	181.2	5.3	63.0	5 473.3
December 2006	2 386.6	3 321.3	172.5	4.9	63.2	2 389.5	3 345.5	169.1	4.8	63.5	5 533.5
2007											
December	2 456.1	3 397.9	160.9	4.5	63.5	2 454.8	3 392.4	162.7	4.6	63.4	5 606.4
2008											
January	2 465.0	3 410.0	159.6	4.5	63.6	2 452.1	3 403.3	161.3	4.5	63.5	5 612.4
February	2 472.7	3 420.8	159.2	4.4	63.7	2 466.7	3 425.3	150.3	4.2	63.6	5 618.4
March	2 478.4	3 428.1	160.4	4.5	63.8	2 497.3	3 438.6	159.0	4.4	64.0	5 624.5
April	2 481.8	3 430.2	162.7	4.5	63.8	2 483.1	3 434.5	163.8	4.6	63.9	5 630.3
May	2 482.6	3 427.0	165.8	4.6	63.7	2 476.3	3 419.1	171.5	4.8	63.7	5 636.1
June	2 480.3	3 420.0	169.2	4.7	63.6	2 479.3	3 428.2	168.9	4.7	63.8	5 641.9
July	2 475.0	3 412.0	172.4	4.8	63.5	2 476.3	3 410.4	170.9	4.8	63.4	5 649.0
August	2 468.5	3 406.0	175.3	4.9	63.3	2 468.9	3 394.6	175.8	4.9	63.1	5 656.0
September	2 462.3	3 402.7	178.4	5.0	63.2	2 467.5	3 402.6	171.6	4.8	63.1	5 663.0
October	2 455.9	3 401.3	181.6	5.1	63.2	2 450.6	3 402.0	188.9	5.3	63.3	5 670.8
November	2 449.9	3 401.1	184.5	5.1	63.2	2 448.2	3 400.0	185.8	5.2	63.1	5 678.5
December	2 444.5	3 401.2	187.0	5.2	63.1	2 442.7	3 408.7	185.5	5.2	63.2	5 686.3

LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER)—Victoria

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	
MALES											
December 2005	1 159.9	1 365.0	72.6	5.0	71.9	1 158.3	1 362.9	71.8	5.0	71.7	2 000.8
December 2006	1 179.5	1 403.1	66.5	4.5	72.3	1 180.2	1 408.1	68.6	4.6	72.7	2 032.5
2007											
December	1 215.2	1 446.8	62.0	4.1	72.9	1 211.5	1 444.9	68.7	4.5	73.1	2 069.8
2008											
January	1 215.1	1 449.4	61.4	4.1	72.9	1 220.0	1 460.8	59.8	3.9	73.3	2 073.2
February	1 214.1	1 450.6	60.8	4.0	72.8	1 218.0	1 453.3	53.9	3.6	72.6	2 076.5
March	1 212.6	1 450.3	60.6	4.0	72.6	1 208.7	1 439.3	61.9	4.1	72.2	2 079.9
April	1 211.4	1 449.1	60.8	4.0	72.5	1 207.9	1 445.8	62.6	4.1	72.4	2 082.9
May	1 210.2	1 447.7	61.5	4.1	72.3	1 211.8	1 456.3	58.2	3.8	72.6	2 086.0
June	1 209.2	1 446.6	61.9	4.1	72.2	1 209.5	1 446.1	66.4	4.4	72.4	2 089.0
July	1 208.5	1 445.7	61.5	4.1	72.0	1 209.8	1 442.9	63.4	4.2	72.0	2 092.3
August	1 207.8	1 444.4	60.8	4.0	71.8	1 208.4	1 444.3	58.4	3.9	71.7	2 095.5
September	1 207.0	1 442.7	60.4	4.0	71.6	1 205.8	1 442.5	60.2	4.0	71.6	2 098.7
October	1 206.2	1 441.1	60.7	4.0	71.4	1 205.3	1 442.8	58.4	3.9	71.4	2 102.5
November	1 205.8	1 439.6	61.3	4.1	71.3	1 204.5	1 440.3	58.8	3.9	71.2	2 106.2
December	1 205.7	1 438.8	62.0	4.1	71.2	1 208.2	1 436.3	68.5	4.6	71.3	2 110.0
FEMALES											
December 2005	601.1	1 118.9	65.8	5.6	56.6	595.1	1 118.5	64.8	5.5	56.5	2 093.9
December 2006	620.0	1 147.2	63.0	5.2	57.0	620.4	1 145.3	63.9	5.3	56.9	2 123.6
2007											
December	641.5	1 187.2	62.8	5.0	57.9	647.9	1 195.9	61.6	4.9	58.3	2 158.6
2008											
January	641.3	1 188.8	62.1	5.0	57.9	634.5	1 186.6	63.8	5.1	57.8	2 161.8
February	639.5	1 189.2	61.2	4.9	57.8	648.4	1 190.9	60.1	4.8	57.8	2 164.9
March	636.8	1 189.0	60.8	4.9	57.6	632.3	1 184.4	54.8	4.4	57.2	2 168.1
April	634.2	1 189.0	60.7	4.9	57.6	635.6	1 190.3	66.0	5.3	57.9	2 171.0
May	632.7	1 189.9	61.0	4.9	57.5	633.0	1 187.9	60.3	4.8	57.4	2 174.0
June	632.4	1 191.6	61.4	4.9	57.6	623.7	1 192.5	61.2	4.9	57.6	2 176.9
July	633.2	1 193.6	61.6	4.9	57.6	635.4	1 192.7	63.5	5.1	57.6	2 180.1
August	634.1	1 195.4	61.6	4.9	57.6	637.8	1 199.0	59.9	4.8	57.7	2 183.3
September	634.3	1 196.8	61.5	4.9	57.5	638.9	1 193.6	60.4	4.8	57.4	2 186.5
October	633.6	1 197.9	61.5	4.9	57.5	629.0	1 200.2	62.3	4.9	57.6	2 190.2
November	632.2	1 198.8	61.5	4.9	57.5	637.0	1 197.9	63.6	5.0	57.5	2 193.9
December	630.9	1 199.3	61.4	4.9	57.4	623.4	1 199.2	59.6	4.7	57.3	2 197.5
PERSONS											
December 2005	1 761.0	2 483.9	138.4	5.3	64.0	1 753.4	2 481.3	136.6	5.2	63.9	4 094.7
December 2006	1 799.5	2 550.3	129.5	4.8	64.5	1 800.5	2 553.4	132.5	4.9	64.6	4 156.0
2007											
December	1 856.7	2 633.9	124.8	4.5	65.2	1 859.4	2 640.8	130.3	4.7	65.5	4 228.4
2008											
January	1 856.4	2 638.2	123.4	4.5	65.2	1 854.6	2 647.5	123.5	4.5	65.4	4 234.9
February	1 853.5	2 639.7	122.1	4.4	65.1	1 866.4	2 644.3	114.0	4.1	65.0	4 241.5
March	1 849.4	2 639.3	121.4	4.4	65.0	1 840.9	2 623.8	116.7	4.3	64.5	4 248.0
April	1 845.6	2 638.1	121.5	4.4	64.9	1 843.5	2 636.1	128.6	4.6	65.0	4 254.0
May	1 842.9	2 637.5	122.5	4.4	64.8	1 844.8	2 644.2	118.5	4.3	64.9	4 260.0
June	1 841.6	2 638.1	123.3	4.5	64.7	1 833.2	2 638.6	127.6	4.6	64.8	4 266.0
July	1 841.7	2 639.3	123.2	4.5	64.7	1 845.2	2 635.6	126.9	4.6	64.7	4 272.4
August	1 842.0	2 639.8	122.4	4.4	64.6	1 846.2	2 643.3	118.3	4.3	64.5	4 278.8
September	1 841.3	2 639.4	121.9	4.4	64.4	1 844.7	2 636.1	120.5	4.4	64.3	4 285.3
October	1 839.8	2 639.0	122.1	4.4	64.3	1 834.3	2 643.0	120.7	4.4	64.4	4 292.7
November	1 838.0	2 638.4	122.9	4.4	64.2	1 841.5	2 638.1	122.4	4.4	64.2	4 300.1
December	1 836.6	2 638.1	123.4	4.5	64.2	1 831.6	2 635.5	128.1	4.6	64.2	4 307.5

LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER)—Queensland

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp-loyed	Unemp-loyment rate	Partici-pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp-loyed	Unemp-loyment rate	Partici-pation rate	Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
MALES											
December 2005	946.5	1 101.0	51.9	4.5	73.3	943.1	1 100.2	52.6	4.6	73.3	1 572.5
December 2006	986.1	1 149.2	42.9	3.6	73.9	988.8	1 152.4	41.5	3.5	74.0	1 613.9
2007											
December	1 013.6	1 181.9	37.8	3.1	73.6	1 015.2	1 182.8	36.8	3.0	73.6	1 656.7
2008											
January	1 012.3	1 183.2	37.6	3.1	73.5	1 012.5	1 183.4	31.9	2.6	73.2	1 660.5
February	1 011.1	1 184.0	38.1	3.1	73.4	1 014.3	1 185.4	39.3	3.2	73.6	1 664.3
March	1 011.5	1 184.9	39.1	3.2	73.4	1 002.2	1 184.7	39.8	3.2	73.4	1 668.1
April	1 014.2	1 186.1	40.2	3.3	73.4	1 019.8	1 185.6	41.8	3.4	73.4	1 671.2
May	1 019.2	1 188.1	40.9	3.3	73.4	1 011.3	1 184.3	42.6	3.5	73.3	1 674.5
June	1 025.7	1 191.3	41.0	3.3	73.5	1 025.7	1 192.1	41.8	3.4	73.6	1 677.7
July	1 032.3	1 195.2	41.3	3.3	73.5	1 037.5	1 195.9	38.8	3.1	73.4	1 681.1
August	1 037.4	1 198.8	42.1	3.4	73.7	1 041.0	1 199.2	39.3	3.2	73.5	1 684.7
September	1 040.6	1 201.5	43.7	3.5	73.7	1 040.8	1 201.3	45.3	3.6	73.8	1 688.2
October	1 042.3	1 203.2	45.6	3.7	73.8	1 038.4	1 205.7	45.1	3.6	73.9	1 691.9
November	1 043.3	1 204.1	47.6	3.8	73.8	1 051.4	1 209.1	48.9	3.9	74.2	1 695.7
December	1 042.7	1 204.0	49.4	3.9	73.8	1 034.1	1 195.8	50.7	4.1	73.3	1 699.4
FEMALES											
December 2005	486.6	897.9	49.7	5.2	59.0	483.0	896.2	48.8	5.2	58.8	1 606.1
December 2006	538.7	950.2	45.8	4.6	60.7	541.5	946.2	46.8	4.7	60.5	1 640.9
2007											
December	548.7	974.7	42.8	4.2	60.5	548.8	975.0	41.2	4.1	60.4	1 681.6
2008											
January	548.6	976.6	42.7	4.2	60.5	542.0	968.1	44.1	4.4	60.1	1 685.1
February	548.9	979.1	43.0	4.2	60.5	549.0	980.0	42.5	4.2	60.6	1 688.7
March	550.9	982.9	43.4	4.2	60.6	555.8	983.3	42.5	4.1	60.6	1 692.2
April	554.8	987.8	43.7	4.2	60.8	551.7	989.0	43.4	4.2	60.9	1 695.4
May	559.3	993.2	43.8	4.2	61.0	555.5	997.6	44.1	4.2	61.3	1 698.7
June	563.4	998.0	43.5	4.2	61.2	558.6	989.3	44.0	4.3	60.7	1 701.9
July	566.0	1 001.5	42.9	4.1	61.2	580.4	1 003.3	46.8	4.5	61.6	1 705.1
August	566.9	1 004.2	41.9	4.0	61.2	568.8	1 014.2	37.1	3.5	61.5	1 708.4
September	566.3	1 006.4	40.9	3.9	61.2	560.2	1 000.7	40.8	3.9	60.8	1 711.6
October	564.6	1 008.2	40.0	3.8	61.1	560.6	1 008.1	42.3	4.0	61.3	1 715.0
November	562.6	1 009.8	39.2	3.7	61.1	571.7	1 007.0	38.3	3.7	60.8	1 718.3
December	560.4	1 011.4	38.6	3.7	61.0	553.0	1 014.0	38.4	3.7	61.1	1 721.7
PERSONS											
December 2005	1 433.1	1 998.9	101.6	4.8	66.1	1 426.1	1 996.3	101.4	4.8	66.0	3 178.6
December 2006	1 524.8	2 099.4	88.7	4.1	67.3	1 530.3	2 098.6	88.3	4.0	67.2	3 254.8
2007											
December	1 562.3	2 156.6	80.6	3.6	67.0	1 564.0	2 157.8	78.0	3.5	67.0	3 338.3
2008											
January	1 560.9	2 159.8	80.3	3.6	67.0	1 554.5	2 151.5	76.0	3.4	66.6	3 345.6
February	1 560.0	2 163.1	81.1	3.6	66.9	1 563.2	2 165.4	81.9	3.6	67.0	3 353.0
March	1 562.4	2 167.7	82.5	3.7	67.0	1 558.0	2 168.0	82.3	3.7	67.0	3 360.3
April	1 569.0	2 173.9	83.9	3.7	67.1	1 571.5	2 174.6	85.2	3.8	67.1	3 366.7
May	1 578.5	2 181.3	84.6	3.7	67.2	1 566.8	2 181.9	86.7	3.8	67.3	3 373.2
June	1 589.1	2 189.3	84.6	3.7	67.3	1 584.3	2 181.5	85.8	3.8	67.1	3 379.6
July	1 598.3	2 196.7	84.1	3.7	67.4	1 617.9	2 199.2	85.5	3.7	67.5	3 386.2
August	1 604.3	2 203.0	84.0	3.7	67.4	1 609.8	2 213.4	76.4	3.3	67.5	3 393.1
September	1 606.8	2 207.9	84.6	3.7	67.4	1 601.0	2 202.0	86.1	3.8	67.3	3 399.8
October	1 607.0	2 211.4	85.6	3.7	67.4	1 599.0	2 213.9	87.5	3.8	67.5	3 406.9
November	1 605.9	2 213.9	86.8	3.8	67.4	1 623.0	2 216.1	87.2	3.8	67.5	3 414.0
December	1 603.1	2 215.3	88.0	3.8	67.4	1 587.1	2 209.8	89.1	3.9	67.2	3 421.1

LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER)—South Australia

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					
	<i>Employed full time</i>	<i>Total employed</i>	<i>Total unemp-loyed</i>	<i>Unemp-loyment rate</i>	<i>Partici-pation rate</i>	<i>Employed full time</i>	<i>Total employed</i>	<i>Total unemp-loyed</i>	<i>Unemp-loyment rate</i>	<i>Partici-pation rate</i>	<i>Civilian population aged 15 years and over</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
MALES											
December 2005	341.7	405.7	22.2	5.2	69.0	343.2	405.5	20.7	4.9	68.7	620.2
December 2006	344.3	410.5	23.4	5.4	69.3	342.7	410.8	24.5	5.6	69.5	626.5
2007											
December	348.9	421.8	21.3	4.8	69.8	348.9	422.0	22.8	5.1	70.1	634.9
2008											
January	350.6	423.7	21.1	4.7	70.0	350.6	425.0	19.8	4.5	70.0	635.5
February	352.1	425.0	21.1	4.7	70.1	352.6	424.9	18.8	4.2	69.8	636.1
March	353.6	425.9	21.0	4.7	70.2	353.7	426.2	23.2	5.2	70.6	636.8
April	355.1	426.6	21.0	4.7	70.2	354.9	428.3	20.9	4.6	70.5	637.4
May	356.7	427.3	21.1	4.7	70.3	355.5	422.5	21.9	4.9	69.7	638.0
June	358.5	428.2	21.3	4.7	70.4	357.8	427.9	21.5	4.8	70.4	638.6
July	360.1	429.0	21.6	4.8	70.5	361.9	432.3	20.5	4.5	70.8	639.1
August	361.4	429.6	22.0	4.9	70.6	362.6	430.7	17.9	4.0	70.1	639.7
September	362.4	429.8	22.5	5.0	70.6	360.8	428.0	28.0	6.1	71.2	640.2
October	363.0	429.6	22.9	5.1	70.6	363.1	429.3	22.4	5.0	70.5	641.0
November	363.5	429.3	23.1	5.1	70.5	365.2	431.3	22.8	5.0	70.8	641.7
December	363.7	428.6	23.2	5.1	70.4	362.2	426.4	22.1	4.9	69.8	642.5
FEMALES											
December 2005	170.8	335.5	15.1	4.3	54.6	171.3	335.0	16.8	4.8	54.8	642.0
December 2006	174.3	346.5	18.0	4.9	56.2	174.8	347.7	19.0	5.2	56.6	648.4
2007											
December	185.2	351.6	17.4	4.7	56.2	185.8	353.3	17.2	4.6	56.4	656.6
2008											
January	184.8	351.3	17.1	4.7	56.1	183.0	347.3	16.8	4.6	55.4	657.2
February	184.3	351.2	17.1	4.6	56.0	185.6	352.8	17.8	4.8	56.3	657.8
March	183.9	351.2	17.2	4.7	56.0	180.5	352.0	14.4	3.9	55.7	658.4
April	183.7	351.4	17.5	4.7	56.0	183.7	350.4	19.0	5.2	56.1	659.0
May	183.5	351.6	17.8	4.8	56.0	186.1	352.6	19.3	5.2	56.4	659.5
June	183.1	351.9	18.2	4.9	56.1	184.7	351.9	17.8	4.8	56.0	660.1
July	182.0	352.3	18.7	5.0	56.1	179.4	351.4	18.0	4.9	55.9	660.7
August	180.4	352.8	19.2	5.2	56.2	178.5	350.1	18.3	5.0	55.7	661.3
September	178.4	353.2	19.8	5.3	56.4	183.7	357.0	19.8	5.3	56.9	661.9
October	176.4	353.5	20.5	5.5	56.4	175.3	353.6	21.6	5.8	56.6	662.7
November	174.6	353.4	21.2	5.7	56.5	171.8	353.9	21.6	5.8	56.6	663.4
December	173.1	353.4	21.8	5.8	56.5	173.1	351.2	21.4	5.7	56.1	664.1
PERSONS											
December 2005	512.5	741.2	37.3	4.8	61.7	514.5	740.5	37.5	4.8	61.6	1 262.2
December 2006	518.6	756.9	41.4	5.2	62.6	517.5	758.6	43.5	5.4	62.9	1 274.9
2007											
December	534.1	773.4	38.7	4.8	62.9	534.7	775.3	40.0	4.9	63.1	1 291.5
2008											
January	535.3	775.0	38.2	4.7	62.9	533.6	772.3	36.7	4.5	62.6	1 292.7
February	536.4	776.2	38.2	4.7	62.9	538.3	777.8	36.6	4.5	62.9	1 294.0
March	537.5	777.2	38.3	4.7	63.0	534.1	778.2	37.6	4.6	63.0	1 295.2
April	538.8	777.9	38.5	4.7	63.0	538.6	778.7	39.9	4.9	63.1	1 296.4
May	540.2	778.8	38.9	4.8	63.0	541.6	775.2	41.2	5.0	62.9	1 297.5
June	541.5	780.0	39.5	4.8	63.1	542.5	779.8	39.3	4.8	63.1	1 298.7
July	542.1	781.3	40.2	4.9	63.2	541.3	783.6	38.6	4.7	63.3	1 299.8
August	541.7	782.4	41.2	5.0	63.3	541.1	780.8	36.2	4.4	62.8	1 301.0
September	540.8	783.0	42.3	5.1	63.4	544.5	785.0	47.8	5.7	64.0	1 302.2
October	539.5	783.1	43.4	5.3	63.4	538.4	782.9	44.0	5.3	63.4	1 303.6
November	538.1	782.8	44.3	5.4	63.4	537.0	785.2	44.4	5.4	63.6	1 305.1
December	536.8	782.0	45.1	5.4	63.3	535.3	777.7	43.6	5.3	62.9	1 306.6

LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER)—Western Australia

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemp- loyed	Unemp- loyment rate	Partici- pation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	
MALES											
December 2005	509.1	593.8	23.3	3.8	76.3	510.1	594.8	23.8	3.9	76.5	808.7
December 2006	524.3	605.9	18.0	2.9	75.4	523.3	603.5	18.4	3.0	75.1	827.9
2007											
December	542.8	628.7	19.7	3.0	76.3	543.3	628.1	20.2	3.1	76.2	850.3
2008											
January	544.6	630.4	19.6	3.0	76.3	542.4	631.4	18.5	2.8	76.2	852.4
February	546.2	631.0	19.8	3.0	76.2	550.2	636.0	17.3	2.6	76.4	854.6
March	548.0	631.5	20.1	3.1	76.1	550.8	632.2	21.4	3.3	76.3	856.8
April	550.5	632.5	20.4	3.1	76.0	548.5	629.6	20.1	3.1	75.6	858.9
May	554.3	635.3	20.4	3.1	76.1	546.9	630.7	23.9	3.7	76.0	861.0
June	559.1	639.9	19.7	3.0	76.4	559.2	637.1	18.5	2.8	76.0	863.1
July	564.5	645.6	18.6	2.8	76.8	568.1	645.9	18.0	2.7	76.7	865.4
August	569.4	651.3	17.5	2.6	77.1	572.8	659.2	15.9	2.4	77.8	867.6
September	573.2	655.7	16.8	2.5	77.3	570.8	653.5	20.3	3.0	77.5	869.9
October	575.7	658.8	16.4	2.4	77.4	580.1	664.7	11.7	1.7	77.5	872.4
November	577.2	660.9	16.2	2.4	77.4	575.2	653.9	18.0	2.7	76.8	874.8
December	577.6	661.9	16.4	2.4	77.4	574.9	661.9	17.4	2.6	77.4	877.4
FEMALES											
December 2005	239.1	464.9	21.7	4.5	59.5	239.6	464.1	22.7	4.7	59.6	817.1
December 2006	245.3	476.2	18.0	3.6	59.4	249.9	475.9	17.5	3.5	59.3	831.8
2007											
December	266.7	495.8	17.7	3.4	60.4	266.1	495.8	15.5	3.0	60.1	850.8
2008											
January	268.0	496.9	17.5	3.4	60.3	272.2	501.9	20.9	4.0	61.3	852.5
February	269.2	498.0	17.5	3.4	60.3	269.3	497.0	15.8	3.1	60.0	854.3
March	270.2	499.1	17.8	3.4	60.4	269.0	498.4	17.2	3.3	60.2	856.1
April	271.1	500.1	18.2	3.5	60.4	268.6	500.8	18.5	3.6	60.5	857.8
May	272.2	501.5	18.4	3.5	60.5	271.7	499.5	18.7	3.6	60.3	859.6
June	273.5	503.3	18.2	3.5	60.5	275.9	502.0	18.7	3.6	60.5	861.3
July	274.7	505.4	17.8	3.4	60.6	274.7	507.1	18.7	3.6	60.9	863.1
August	275.1	507.4	17.2	3.3	60.7	274.6	508.8	17.0	3.2	60.8	865.0
September	274.8	509.1	16.8	3.2	60.7	275.6	508.9	15.4	2.9	60.5	866.8
October	274.1	510.6	16.5	3.1	60.7	276.2	511.8	15.5	2.9	60.7	868.8
November	273.1	511.9	16.5	3.1	60.7	272.1	508.0	17.8	3.4	60.4	870.8
December	272.0	512.9	16.5	3.1	60.7	269.6	515.7	17.1	3.2	61.0	872.8
PERSONS											
December 2005	748.1	1 058.6	45.0	4.1	67.9	749.7	1 058.9	46.5	4.2	68.0	1 625.8
December 2006	769.6	1 082.0	36.0	3.2	67.4	773.2	1 079.4	35.9	3.2	67.2	1 659.7
2007											
December	809.4	1 124.5	37.5	3.2	68.3	809.4	1 123.8	35.7	3.1	68.2	1 701.0
2008											
January	812.6	1 127.2	37.2	3.2	68.3	814.7	1 133.3	39.4	3.4	68.8	1 705.0
February	815.4	1 129.1	37.4	3.2	68.3	819.5	1 133.0	33.1	2.8	68.2	1 708.9
March	818.2	1 130.5	37.9	3.2	68.2	819.8	1 130.7	38.6	3.3	68.3	1 712.9
April	821.6	1 132.6	38.6	3.3	68.2	817.1	1 130.4	38.7	3.3	68.1	1 716.7
May	826.4	1 136.8	38.7	3.3	68.3	818.6	1 130.1	42.6	3.6	68.2	1 720.6
June	832.6	1 143.2	37.9	3.2	68.5	835.1	1 139.1	37.2	3.2	68.2	1 724.4
July	839.2	1 151.1	36.4	3.1	68.7	842.7	1 153.0	36.7	3.1	68.8	1 728.5
August	844.6	1 158.8	34.8	2.9	68.9	847.4	1 168.0	32.9	2.7	69.3	1 732.6
September	848.0	1 164.9	33.6	2.8	69.0	846.4	1 162.4	35.7	3.0	69.0	1 736.7
October	849.7	1 169.4	32.9	2.7	69.1	856.3	1 176.5	27.2	2.3	69.1	1 741.2
November	850.4	1 172.8	32.7	2.7	69.1	847.3	1 161.8	35.9	3.0	68.6	1 745.7
December	849.6	1 174.8	33.0	2.7	69.1	844.6	1 177.6	34.5	2.8	69.3	1 750.2

LABOUR FORCE STATUS (AGED 15 YEARS & OVER)—Tasmania

	TREND					SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					
	<i>Employed full time</i>	<i>Total employed</i>	<i>Total unemp-loyed</i>	<i>Unemp-loyment rate</i>	<i>Partici-pation rate</i>	<i>Employed full time</i>	<i>Total employed</i>	<i>Total unemp-loyed</i>	<i>Unemp-loyment rate</i>	<i>Partici-pation rate</i>	<i>Civilian population aged 15 years and over</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
MALES											
December 2005	101.2	122.0	9.1	6.9	68.6	101.8	122.4	8.8	6.7	68.6	191.1
December 2006	101.4	121.0	7.6	5.9	66.7	100.9	121.4	7.6	5.9	66.9	192.8
2007											
December	106.2	126.0	5.7	4.3	67.8	106.9	125.6	5.8	4.4	67.6	194.3
2008											
January	106.6	126.3	5.4	4.1	67.7	106.4	126.9	5.5	4.2	68.1	194.5
February	106.9	126.6	5.1	3.9	67.7	107.7	126.6	5.3	4.0	67.8	194.7
March	107.1	127.0	4.9	3.7	67.7	106.3	126.1	4.8	3.7	67.2	194.8
April	107.5	127.8	4.8	3.6	68.0	107.5	128.3	4.1	3.1	67.9	195.0
May	108.3	129.0	4.7	3.5	68.5	109.1	128.8	5.3	3.9	68.7	195.2
June	109.4	130.6	4.5	3.4	69.2	106.1	128.7	4.6	3.4	68.2	195.3
July	110.4	132.0	4.5	3.3	69.8	111.4	132.0	4.6	3.4	69.9	195.6
August	111.0	132.8	4.4	3.2	70.1	113.6	135.7	4.4	3.1	71.5	195.8
September	111.1	132.9	4.5	3.3	70.1	111.5	133.8	3.8	2.8	70.2	196.0
October	110.8	132.6	4.6	3.4	69.9	111.4	132.7	4.6	3.3	69.9	196.3
November	110.3	131.9	4.8	3.5	69.6	108.4	130.9	5.2	3.8	69.2	196.5
December	109.9	131.1	5.0	3.7	69.2	109.0	129.1	5.2	3.9	68.2	196.8
FEMALES											
December 2005	49.1	101.2	6.7	6.2	54.0	48.8	100.8	5.4	5.0	53.1	200.0
December 2006	53.0	102.9	5.9	5.4	53.9	53.0	102.8	5.7	5.2	53.7	201.8
2007											
December	52.2	103.9	6.6	6.0	54.4	52.4	104.5	6.6	5.9	54.6	203.4
2008											
January	52.7	104.0	6.6	6.0	54.4	51.9	104.2	6.4	5.8	54.4	203.5
February	53.1	104.3	6.5	5.9	54.4	54.0	104.0	6.8	6.1	54.4	203.6
March	53.4	104.7	6.3	5.7	54.5	52.7	102.2	6.5	6.0	53.3	203.8
April	53.7	105.1	6.2	5.5	54.6	54.2	106.3	6.2	5.5	55.2	203.9
May	53.9	105.5	6.0	5.4	54.7	54.2	107.2	5.4	4.8	55.2	204.0
June	54.2	105.9	5.9	5.3	54.8	53.6	107.1	5.7	5.1	55.2	204.2
July	54.3	106.2	5.8	5.2	54.8	54.1	103.5	6.7	6.1	53.9	204.4
August	54.4	106.4	5.7	5.1	54.8	54.9	106.3	5.7	5.1	54.8	204.6
September	54.5	106.7	5.6	5.0	54.8	54.7	106.5	5.6	5.0	54.7	204.8
October	54.5	106.9	5.6	5.0	54.9	54.2	109.2	4.4	3.9	55.4	205.0
November	54.5	107.1	5.6	5.0	54.9	54.8	106.6	6.0	5.3	54.8	205.3
December	54.4	107.3	5.7	5.1	55.0	53.9	106.4	6.5	5.7	54.9	205.5
PERSONS											
December 2005	150.3	223.2	15.8	6.6	61.1	150.6	223.2	14.1	6.0	60.7	391.1
December 2006	154.4	223.9	13.5	5.7	60.2	154.0	224.2	13.3	5.6	60.2	394.6
2007											
December	158.4	229.9	12.4	5.1	60.9	159.3	230.1	12.4	5.1	61.0	397.7
2008											
January	159.3	230.3	12.0	5.0	60.9	158.3	231.1	11.9	4.9	61.1	398.0
February	159.9	230.9	11.6	4.8	60.9	161.7	230.6	12.1	5.0	60.9	398.3
March	160.5	231.7	11.2	4.6	60.9	159.1	228.3	11.3	4.7	60.1	398.6
April	161.3	232.9	11.0	4.5	61.1	161.7	234.6	10.3	4.2	61.4	398.9
May	162.3	234.6	10.7	4.4	61.4	163.3	236.0	10.7	4.3	61.8	399.2
June	163.6	236.5	10.4	4.2	61.8	159.7	235.8	10.3	4.2	61.6	399.5
July	164.7	238.2	10.2	4.1	62.1	165.5	235.5	11.3	4.6	61.7	399.9
August	165.5	239.2	10.1	4.1	62.3	168.5	242.0	10.1	4.0	63.0	400.4
September	165.6	239.6	10.1	4.0	62.3	166.2	240.3	9.4	3.7	62.3	400.9
October	165.3	239.5	10.2	4.1	62.2	165.6	241.8	9.0	3.6	62.5	401.3
November	164.8	239.0	10.4	4.2	62.1	163.2	237.5	11.2	4.5	61.9	401.8
December	164.3	238.4	10.7	4.3	61.9	163.0	235.5	11.7	4.7	61.4	402.3

	TREND					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemployed	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
MALES						
December 2005	44.5	52.7	3.5	6.2	73.3	76.7
December 2006	48.4	56.5	1.9	3.2	73.6	79.4
2007						
December	51.7	59.7	3.1	4.9	77.1	81.4
2008						
January	51.5	59.8	3.0	4.9	76.9	81.6
February	51.5	59.9	2.9	4.7	76.8	81.9
March	51.6	60.2	2.7	4.4	76.6	82.1
April	51.7	60.4	2.5	3.9	76.3	82.4
May	51.8	60.6	2.2	3.4	76.0	82.7
June	51.9	60.8	1.9	3.1	75.7	82.9
July	52.0	60.9	1.8	2.9	75.5	83.1
August	52.4	60.9	1.9	3.0	75.4	83.3
September	52.7	61.0	2.0	3.1	75.4	83.4
October	53.2	61.0	2.1	3.4	75.5	83.6
November	53.6	61.0	2.3	3.6	75.5	83.8
December	54.0	61.0	2.4	3.7	75.5	84.0
FEMALES						
December 2005	30.8	43.9	2.5	5.5	64.6	71.9
December 2006	34.0	46.3	1.0	2.2	64.8	73.0
2007						
December	34.5	49.0	2.6	5.0	69.1	74.7
2008						
January	34.8	49.2	2.4	4.7	69.0	74.9
February	35.1	49.4	2.3	4.4	68.8	75.1
March	35.1	49.5	2.1	4.1	68.6	75.3
April	34.9	49.7	2.0	3.8	68.4	75.5
May	34.6	49.9	1.8	3.5	68.4	75.6
June	34.3	50.2	1.7	3.3	68.5	75.8
July	34.0	50.5	1.6	3.1	68.6	76.0
August	34.0	50.5	1.7	3.2	68.6	76.1
September	34.1	50.5	1.7	3.3	68.5	76.2
October	34.3	50.4	1.9	3.5	68.4	76.3
November	34.5	50.2	2.0	3.8	68.3	76.5
December	34.6	50.0	2.0	3.9	68.0	76.6
PERSONS						
December 2005	75.3	96.6	6.0	5.9	69.1	148.6
December 2006	82.4	102.8	2.9	2.8	69.4	152.4
2007						
December	86.2	108.7	5.6	4.9	73.2	156.1
2008						
January	86.4	109.0	5.5	4.8	73.1	156.5
February	86.6	109.3	5.2	4.6	73.0	157.0
March	86.8	109.7	4.9	4.2	72.8	157.4
April	86.6	110.1	4.4	3.9	72.5	157.9
May	86.4	110.5	4.0	3.5	72.3	158.3
June	86.1	111.0	3.6	3.2	72.2	158.8
July	86.1	111.3	3.5	3.0	72.2	159.1
August	86.4	111.5	3.5	3.1	72.1	159.4
September	86.9	111.4	3.7	3.2	72.1	159.6
October	87.5	111.4	4.0	3.4	72.1	160.0
November	88.1	111.3	4.2	3.7	72.1	160.3
December	88.7	111.1	4.4	3.8	72.0	160.6

	TREND					Civilian population aged 15 years and over
	Employed full time	Total employed	Total unemployed	Unemployment rate	Participation rate	
	'000	'000	'000	%	%	'000
MALES						
December 2005	79.5	94.4	3.1	3.2	77.1	126.5
December 2006	83.3	97.5	3.1	3.1	78.4	128.3
2007						
December	84.7	99.3	2.6	2.6	77.6	131.3
2008						
January	84.4	99.3	2.6	2.6	77.4	131.6
February	84.1	99.4	2.6	2.6	77.4	131.9
March	83.9	99.6	2.7	2.6	77.4	132.2
April	83.8	99.7	2.8	2.8	77.6	132.3
May	83.8	99.8	3.0	2.9	77.7	132.4
June	84.0	99.8	3.2	3.1	77.7	132.4
July	84.2	99.7	3.2	3.1	77.7	132.5
August	84.5	99.7	3.2	3.1	77.6	132.6
September	84.8	99.8	3.2	3.1	77.6	132.7
October	85.3	100.0	3.1	3.0	77.6	132.9
November	85.8	100.3	3.1	3.0	77.7	133.1
December	86.2	100.7	3.0	2.9	77.8	133.3
FEMALES						
December 2005	54.3	85.6	3.2	3.6	66.7	133.3
December 2006	59.3	91.1	2.7	2.9	69.5	135.0
2007						
December	59.1	89.7	2.2	2.4	66.9	137.4
2008						
January	59.4	90.5	2.3	2.5	67.4	137.7
February	59.5	91.3	2.4	2.6	67.9	137.9
March	59.4	91.8	2.4	2.6	68.3	138.2
April	59.3	92.1	2.4	2.6	68.4	138.3
May	59.3	92.2	2.4	2.5	68.3	138.4
June	59.2	92.1	2.3	2.4	68.2	138.5
July	59.2	92.1	2.2	2.3	68.0	138.6
August	59.1	92.1	2.2	2.3	68.0	138.6
September	58.9	92.1	2.2	2.3	67.9	138.7
October	58.6	92.0	2.2	2.3	67.9	138.8
November	58.2	92.0	2.2	2.3	67.8	139.0
December	57.8	91.8	2.2	2.4	67.7	139.1
PERSONS						
December 2005	133.8	180.0	6.3	3.4	71.7	259.8
December 2006	142.7	188.6	5.8	3.0	73.8	263.4
2007						
December	143.9	189.0	4.8	2.5	72.1	268.7
2008						
January	143.8	189.8	4.9	2.5	72.3	269.2
February	143.6	190.6	5.1	2.6	72.5	269.8
March	143.3	191.4	5.1	2.6	72.7	270.3
April	143.1	191.8	5.3	2.7	72.9	270.6
May	143.1	192.0	5.4	2.7	72.9	270.7
June	143.2	191.9	5.5	2.8	72.8	270.9
July	143.4	191.8	5.4	2.7	72.7	271.1
August	143.6	191.8	5.4	2.7	72.7	271.3
September	143.7	191.9	5.4	2.7	72.6	271.4
October	143.8	192.1	5.3	2.7	72.6	271.7
November	144.0	192.3	5.3	2.7	72.6	272.0
December	144.0	192.5	5.2	2.6	72.6	272.3

	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		Total	Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15 years and over	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Full time	Part time	Looking for f/t work	Looking for f/t work					Looking for f/t work	Total	Participation rate
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%	%
MALES											
New South Wales	1 590.3	302.9	1 893.2	83.6	105.1	1 998.3	804.5	2 802.8	5.0	5.3	71.3
Victoria	1 222.3	226.3	1 448.6	54.6	71.2	1 519.8	590.2	2 110.0	4.3	4.7	72.0
Queensland	1 048.8	162.2	1 211.0	39.6	50.2	1 261.2	438.1	1 699.4	3.6	4.0	74.2
South Australia	366.5	65.3	431.7	17.3	22.1	453.9	188.6	642.5	4.5	4.9	70.6
Western Australia	581.9	88.4	670.4	14.3	18.0	688.4	189.0	877.4	2.4	2.6	78.5
Tasmania	111.3	19.5	130.8	4.3	5.6	136.4	60.3	196.8	3.8	4.1	69.3
Northern Territory	55.9	6.8	62.7	1.7	2.3	65.0	19.0	84.0	3.0	3.6	77.4
Australian Capital Territory	88.1	14.4	102.5	*1.5	3.0	105.4	27.8	133.3	*1.6	2.8	79.1
Australia	5 065.1	885.8	5 950.9	217.0	277.6	6 228.5	2 317.5	8 546.0	4.1	4.5	72.9
FEMALES											
New South Wales	886.2	663.3	1 549.4	49.0	82.3	1 631.7	1 251.7	2 883.5	5.2	5.0	56.6
Victoria	635.8	578.8	1 214.6	31.4	59.5	1 274.1	923.4	2 197.5	4.7	4.7	58.0
Queensland	563.8	458.7	1 022.5	23.2	36.2	1 058.7	663.0	1 721.7	4.0	3.4	61.5
South Australia	177.5	180.8	358.4	13.8	21.9	380.3	283.9	664.1	7.2	5.8	57.3
Western Australia	276.7	246.9	523.6	10.2	16.3	539.9	332.9	872.8	3.6	3.0	61.9
Tasmania	54.1	53.2	107.3	4.3	7.0	114.4	91.1	205.5	7.4	6.1	55.7
Northern Territory	34.4	15.7	50.1	*1.1	1.6	51.7	24.9	76.6	*3.1	3.1	67.4
Australian Capital Territory	58.1	34.0	92.1	*1.5	*2.6	94.8	44.3	139.1	*2.5	*2.8	68.1
Australia	2 686.7	2 231.4	4 918.1	134.6	227.5	5 145.5	3 615.3	8 760.9	4.8	4.4	58.7
PERSONS											
New South Wales	2 476.5	966.2	3 442.7	132.6	187.4	3 630.1	2 056.3	5 686.3	5.1	5.2	63.8
Victoria	1 858.1	805.1	2 663.2	86.0	130.7	2 793.9	1 513.6	4 307.5	4.4	4.7	64.9
Queensland	1 612.6	620.9	2 233.5	62.9	86.5	2 320.0	1 101.1	3 421.1	3.8	3.7	67.8
South Australia	544.0	246.1	790.1	31.1	44.0	834.1	472.5	1 306.6	5.4	5.3	63.8
Western Australia	858.6	335.3	1 194.0	24.6	34.3	1 228.2	521.9	1 750.2	2.8	2.8	70.2
Tasmania	165.4	72.7	238.1	8.7	12.7	250.8	151.5	402.3	5.0	5.0	62.3
Northern Territory	90.3	22.5	112.8	2.8	3.9	116.7	43.9	160.6	3.0	3.4	72.7
Australian Capital Territory	146.2	48.4	194.6	2.9	5.6	200.2	72.1	272.3	2.0	2.8	73.5
Australia	7 751.8	3 117.2	10 869.0	351.6	505.0	11 374.0	5 932.9	17 306.9	4.3	4.4	65.7

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate	Employment to population ratio	Unemployment to population ratio – looking for full-time work
	Full time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%			
MALES									
December 2005	157.4	348.9	34.9	66.8	18.2	16.1	58.1	48.7	4.9
December 2006	154.4	360.6	32.6	59.3	17.4	14.1	58.1	49.9	4.5
2007									
December	170.6	375.4	31.7	58.9	15.7	13.6	59.2	51.2	4.3
2008									
January	172.1	379.7	30.5	57.0	15.1	13.0	59.4	51.7	4.2
February	172.8	382.6	29.4	55.5	14.6	12.7	59.5	52.0	4.0
March	172.9	383.3	28.8	54.7	14.3	12.5	59.4	52.0	3.9
April	172.9	382.5	28.7	54.6	14.2	12.5	59.2	51.8	3.9
May	173.3	380.9	29.1	55.0	14.4	12.6	59.0	51.5	3.9
June	173.7	379.2	29.2	55.3	14.4	12.7	58.7	51.3	4.0
July	173.5	377.8	29.0	55.2	14.3	12.7	58.5	51.0	3.9
August	172.3	376.3	28.4	55.0	14.2	12.7	58.2	50.8	3.8
September	170.0	374.5	28.0	55.1	14.1	12.8	57.9	50.5	3.8
October	167.3	372.5	27.9	55.5	14.3	13.0	57.6	50.2	3.8
November	164.7	370.5	28.0	56.1	14.5	13.2	57.4	49.8	3.8
December	162.3	368.8	28.1	56.6	14.8	13.3	57.2	49.6	3.8
FEMALES									
December 2005	83.6	358.2	24.9	58.3	22.9	14.0	60.9	52.3	3.6
December 2006	84.7	360.3	26.3	57.5	23.7	13.8	60.5	52.2	3.8
2007									
December	91.1	370.4	23.2	57.7	20.3	13.5	61.0	52.8	3.3
2008									
January	91.3	371.0	23.5	57.1	20.4	13.3	61.0	52.8	3.3
February	91.1	370.8	23.9	56.9	20.7	13.3	60.8	52.7	3.4
March	90.2	370.4	24.2	57.1	21.2	13.4	60.7	52.6	3.4
April	88.7	369.7	24.7	57.3	21.8	13.4	60.6	52.4	3.5
May	86.7	368.8	25.0	57.1	22.4	13.4	60.4	52.3	3.5
June	84.7	368.4	25.2	56.2	23.0	13.2	60.1	52.2	3.6
July	83.0	368.3	24.9	54.7	23.1	12.9	59.8	52.1	3.5
August	81.5	368.2	24.2	53.3	22.9	12.6	59.6	52.0	3.4
September	80.3	368.0	23.3	52.3	22.5	12.4	59.3	51.9	3.3
October	79.3	367.7	22.3	52.0	21.9	12.4	59.2	51.9	3.1
November	78.3	367.4	21.2	51.9	21.2	12.4	59.1	51.8	3.0
December	77.7	366.9	20.2	51.9	20.5	12.4	58.9	51.6	2.8
PERSONS									
December 2005	241.0	707.1	59.8	125.1	19.9	15.0	59.4	50.5	4.3
December 2006	239.0	720.9	58.9	116.8	19.8	13.9	59.3	51.0	4.2
2007									
December	261.7	745.8	54.9	116.6	17.3	13.5	60.1	52.0	3.8
2008									
January	263.5	750.7	54.0	114.0	17.0	13.2	60.2	52.2	3.8
February	263.9	753.4	53.3	112.4	16.8	13.0	60.2	52.3	3.7
March	263.1	753.7	53.0	111.9	16.8	12.9	60.1	52.3	3.7
April	261.6	752.1	53.4	111.9	16.9	13.0	59.9	52.1	3.7
May	260.0	749.7	54.1	112.1	17.2	13.0	59.7	51.9	3.7
June	258.4	747.6	54.4	111.5	17.4	13.0	59.4	51.7	3.8
July	256.5	746.1	53.9	110.0	17.4	12.8	59.1	51.5	3.7
August	253.8	744.5	52.6	108.3	17.2	12.7	58.9	51.4	3.6
September	250.4	742.5	51.3	107.4	17.0	12.6	58.6	51.2	3.5
October	246.6	740.3	50.2	107.5	16.9	12.7	58.4	51.0	3.5
November	243.0	737.9	49.2	108.0	16.8	12.8	58.2	50.8	3.4
December	240.0	735.7	48.3	108.5	16.8	12.9	58.0	50.6	3.3

	EMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYED		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate	Employment to population ratio	Unemployment to population ratio – looking for full-time work
	Full time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total			
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%	%			
MALES									
December 2005	154.8	347.1	34.0	65.4	18.0	15.9	57.6	48.5	4.7
December 2006	155.1	362.7	31.6	57.8	16.9	13.7	58.2	50.2	4.4
2007									
December	169.3	373.8	32.7	59.4	16.2	13.7	59.1	51.0	4.5
2008									
January	176.6	386.3	30.2	54.0	14.6	12.3	59.9	52.6	4.1
February	174.8	384.7	26.4	53.0	13.1	12.1	59.5	52.3	3.6
March	171.3	381.5	27.5	54.8	13.8	12.6	59.1	51.7	3.7
April	170.4	382.9	30.2	54.5	15.1	12.5	59.2	51.8	4.1
May	172.3	380.3	28.4	53.5	14.1	12.3	58.7	51.5	3.8
June	173.7	376.5	32.0	61.6	15.6	14.1	59.2	50.9	4.3
July	172.2	379.3	28.2	55.1	14.1	12.7	58.7	51.2	3.8
August	180.3	375.9	28.2	49.7	13.5	11.7	57.4	50.7	3.8
September	169.5	375.3	27.6	56.1	14.0	13.0	58.2	50.6	3.7
October	164.4	375.1	28.1	56.5	14.6	13.1	58.1	50.5	3.8
November	161.4	368.0	25.2	55.0	13.5	13.0	56.9	49.5	3.4
December	163.2	366.8	31.6	59.2	16.2	13.9	57.2	49.3	4.2
FEMALES									
December 2005	82.4	353.6	23.3	57.8	22.0	14.1	60.1	51.6	3.4
December 2006	83.7	361.5	27.8	60.4	24.9	14.3	61.1	52.3	4.0
2007									
December	93.0	374.7	23.1	55.8	19.9	13.0	61.4	53.4	3.3
2008									
January	91.9	372.8	22.5	57.2	19.6	13.3	61.2	53.1	3.2
February	90.7	368.7	22.7	53.2	20.0	12.6	60.0	52.4	3.2
March	92.3	370.3	22.0	54.1	19.3	12.7	60.3	52.6	3.1
April	85.2	369.8	28.5	62.2	25.1	14.4	61.3	52.5	4.1
May	88.4	368.1	25.4	57.8	22.3	13.6	60.4	52.2	3.6
June	86.9	368.6	23.8	57.5	21.5	13.5	60.3	52.2	3.4
July	81.0	369.6	24.5	57.8	23.2	13.5	60.4	52.3	3.5
August	78.5	367.5	24.2	44.6	23.6	10.8	58.2	51.9	3.4
September	83.7	364.6	24.8	53.3	22.8	12.8	59.0	51.5	3.5
October	76.7	371.9	21.7	53.8	22.0	12.6	60.0	52.4	3.1
November	81.6	368.7	23.1	54.0	22.1	12.8	59.5	51.9	3.3
December	75.6	363.9	16.8	50.8	18.2	12.3	58.3	51.2	2.4
PERSONS									
December 2005	237.2	700.7	57.3	123.2	19.4	15.0	58.8	50.0	4.1
December 2006	238.8	724.2	59.4	118.2	19.9	14.0	59.6	51.2	4.2
2007									
December	262.3	748.5	55.7	115.2	17.5	13.3	60.2	52.2	3.9
2008									
January	268.5	759.2	52.6	111.2	16.4	12.8	60.6	52.8	3.7
February	265.5	753.4	49.2	106.2	15.6	12.4	59.7	52.3	3.4
March	263.6	751.8	49.6	108.9	15.8	12.7	59.7	52.1	3.4
April	255.5	752.7	58.8	116.7	18.7	13.4	60.2	52.1	4.1
May	260.7	748.4	53.8	111.3	17.1	13.0	59.5	51.8	3.7
June	260.5	745.1	55.8	119.1	17.6	13.8	59.7	51.5	3.9
July	253.2	748.9	52.7	112.9	17.2	13.1	59.5	51.7	3.6
August	258.9	743.4	52.4	94.3	16.8	11.3	57.8	51.3	3.6
September	253.3	740.0	52.4	109.4	17.1	12.9	58.6	51.0	3.6
October	241.1	747.0	49.7	110.2	17.1	12.9	59.0	51.5	3.4
November	243.1	736.7	48.3	109.0	16.6	12.9	58.2	50.7	3.3
December	238.8	730.7	48.4	110.0	16.9	13.1	57.8	50.2	3.3

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			Civilian population aged 15–19 years	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		Participation rate	Unemployment to population ratio – looking for full-time work	
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Labour force		Not in labour force	Looking for f/t work			Total
NOT ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
Males												
December 2005	149.5	67.0	216.5	29.5	38.5	254.9	48.6	303.5	16.5	15.1	84.0	9.7
December 2006	153.6	73.6	227.2	30.8	36.5	263.7	50.4	314.1	16.7	13.8	84.0	9.8
December 2007	160.1	71.1	231.2	30.9	36.8	268.0	51.9	320.0	16.2	13.7	83.8	9.7
December 2008	153.9	63.1	217.1	31.8	36.7	253.8	49.6	303.4	17.1	14.5	83.6	10.5
Females												
December 2005	78.2	95.8	174.0	19.9	29.2	203.2	51.7	254.9	20.3	14.4	79.7	7.8
December 2006	80.3	101.2	181.5	25.3	33.5	215.0	47.0	262.0	24.0	15.6	82.0	9.7
December 2007	88.8	86.8	175.6	18.5	23.5	199.1	46.6	245.7	17.3	11.8	81.0	7.5
December 2008	72.2	95.8	167.9	15.6	25.1	193.1	54.3	247.4	17.8	13.0	78.1	6.3
Persons												
December 2005	227.7	162.8	390.5	49.4	67.6	458.1	100.3	558.4	17.8	14.8	82.0	8.8
December 2006	233.9	174.8	408.7	56.1	70.0	478.7	97.4	576.1	19.3	14.6	83.1	9.7
December 2007	248.9	157.9	406.8	49.4	60.3	467.1	98.6	565.7	16.6	12.9	82.6	8.7
December 2008	226.1	158.9	385.0	47.4	61.8	446.9	103.9	550.7	17.3	13.8	81.1	8.6
ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
Males												
December 2005	17.7	135.4	153.1	10.2	38.0	191.1	221.3	412.4	36.5	19.9	46.3	2.5
December 2006	12.8	144.9	157.7	6.5	32.0	189.7	218.8	408.5	33.5	16.9	46.4	1.6
December 2007	21.0	143.6	164.6	7.9	34.6	199.2	214.1	413.3	27.2	17.4	48.2	1.9
December 2008	20.2	150.8	171.0	*5.9	35.1	206.1	235.2	441.3	*22.7	17.1	46.7	*1.3
Females												
December 2005	14.9	185.9	200.8	7.5	38.7	239.5	190.2	429.7	33.4	16.2	55.7	1.7
December 2006	14.0	187.2	201.2	7.4	37.0	238.2	190.7	428.9	34.6	15.5	55.5	1.7
December 2007	15.6	205.1	220.7	8.7	41.3	262.1	193.5	455.6	35.9	15.8	57.5	1.9
December 2008	12.7	204.1	216.8	*4.3	33.6	250.4	213.3	463.7	*25.1	13.4	54.0	*0.9
Persons												
December 2005	32.6	321.3	353.9	17.7	76.7	430.6	411.5	842.1	35.2	17.8	51.1	2.1
December 2006	26.8	332.1	358.9	13.8	69.1	428.0	409.5	837.5	34.1	16.1	51.1	1.7
December 2007	36.6	348.7	385.3	16.6	76.0	461.3	407.6	868.9	31.2	16.5	53.1	1.9
December 2008	32.9	354.9	387.8	10.2	68.7	456.5	448.5	905.0	23.7	15.1	50.4	1.1
TOTAL												
Males												
December 2005	167.3	202.4	369.6	39.7	76.5	446.1	269.8	715.9	19.2	17.1	62.3	5.5
December 2006	166.4	218.5	384.9	37.2	68.5	453.5	269.2	722.6	18.3	15.1	62.8	5.2
December 2007	181.1	214.7	395.8	38.7	71.4	467.2	266.0	733.2	17.6	15.3	63.7	5.3
December 2008	174.1	213.9	388.0	37.7	71.8	459.9	284.8	744.7	17.8	15.6	61.8	5.1
Females												
December 2005	93.0	281.7	374.8	27.4	67.9	442.6	241.9	684.6	22.7	15.3	64.7	4.0
December 2006	94.2	288.4	382.7	32.7	70.6	453.2	237.7	690.9	25.8	15.6	65.6	4.7
December 2007	104.4	291.9	396.3	27.2	64.9	461.2	240.1	701.3	20.7	14.1	65.8	3.9
December 2008	84.9	299.9	384.7	19.9	58.8	443.5	267.6	711.1	19.0	13.2	62.4	2.8
Persons												
December 2005	260.3	484.1	744.4	67.1	144.3	888.7	511.7	1 400.4	20.5	16.2	63.5	4.8
December 2006	260.7	506.9	767.6	69.9	139.1	906.7	506.9	1 413.6	21.2	15.3	64.1	4.9
December 2007	285.5	506.7	792.1	66.0	136.3	928.4	506.1	1 434.5	18.8	14.7	64.7	4.6
December 2008	259.0	513.8	772.8	57.6	130.6	903.4	552.4	1 455.8	18.2	14.5	62.1	4.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

	EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			Participation rate	Unemployment to population ratio – looking for full-time work	
	Full time	Part time	Total	Looking for f/t work	Total	Labour force	Not in labour force	Civilian population aged 15–19 years	Looking for f/t work			Total
NOT ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
New South Wales	57.8	44.8	102.7	21.1	26.7	129.4	37.6	167.0	26.7	20.7	77.5	12.6
Victoria	35.3	29.2	64.5	8.2	13.2	77.7	20.1	97.8	18.9	17.0	79.4	8.4
Queensland	65.6	44.8	110.4	7.7	9.6	120.0	22.4	142.3	10.5	8.0	84.3	5.4
South Australia	17.0	12.9	29.9	*3.9	5.1	35.0	8.3	43.3	*18.7	14.5	80.8	*9.0
Western Australia	38.5	18.8	57.3	*4.1	*4.1	61.4	10.3	71.7	*9.6	*6.7	85.7	*5.7
Tasmania	5.7	4.2	9.9	*1.7	*2.3	12.2	2.9	15.1	*22.8	*18.5	80.6	*11.1
Northern Territory	3.3	2.1	5.4	*0.4	*0.4	5.8	*1.2	7.0	*11.3	*7.2	82.2	*5.9
Australian Capital Territory	3.0	2.0	5.0	*0.3	*0.5	5.5	*1.0	6.5	*9.9	*8.6	84.2	*5.1
Australia	226.1	158.9	385.0	47.4	61.8	446.9	103.9	550.7	17.3	13.8	81.1	8.6
ATTENDING FULL-TIME EDUCATION												
New South Wales	*5.4	103.6	109.0	*1.0	20.5	129.5	174.9	304.5	*15.7	15.8	42.5	*0.3
Victoria	11.1	100.3	111.5	*2.8	20.7	132.2	122.8	254.9	*20.3	15.7	51.8	*1.1
Queensland	8.3	72.0	80.2	*3.7	14.0	94.2	64.2	158.4	*30.8	14.8	59.5	*2.3
South Australia	*2.0	22.8	24.9	*0.4	*3.9	28.8	33.8	62.6	*17.6	*13.6	46.0	*0.7
Western Australia	*3.2	38.3	41.6	*0.7	*4.6	46.1	33.9	80.0	*17.2	*9.9	57.6	*0.8
Tasmania	*1.2	6.9	8.1	*1.0	*2.2	10.3	9.0	19.3	*45.8	*21.1	53.4	*5.2
Northern Territory	*0.6	3.1	3.7	*0.3	*0.8	4.5	4.0	8.5	*34.6	*17.2	53.0	*3.7
Australian Capital Territory	*1.0	7.8	8.8	*0.2	*2.2	10.9	6.0	16.9	*19.6	*19.8	64.6	*1.4
Australia	32.9	354.9	387.8	10.2	68.7	456.5	448.5	905.0	23.7	15.1	50.4	1.1
TOTAL												
New South Wales	63.2	148.4	211.7	22.1	47.2	258.9	212.5	471.4	25.9	18.2	54.9	4.7
Victoria	46.4	129.5	175.9	11.0	33.9	209.9	142.9	352.7	19.2	16.2	59.5	3.1
Queensland	73.8	116.8	190.6	11.4	23.5	214.2	86.5	300.7	13.3	11.0	71.2	3.8
South Australia	19.0	35.8	54.8	*4.3	9.0	63.8	42.1	105.9	*18.6	14.1	60.2	*4.1
Western Australia	41.7	57.2	98.9	*4.8	8.7	107.5	44.2	151.7	*10.3	8.1	70.9	*3.2
Tasmania	6.9	11.2	18.1	2.7	4.4	22.5	11.9	34.4	28.0	19.7	65.4	7.8
Northern Territory	3.9	5.2	9.1	*0.7	*1.2	10.3	5.2	15.5	*15.9	*11.5	66.2	*4.7
Australian Capital Territory	4.0	9.7	13.8	*0.6	*2.6	16.4	7.0	23.4	*12.5	*16.1	70.0	*2.5
Australia	259.0	513.8	772.8	57.6	130.6	903.4	552.4	1 455.8	18.2	14.5	62.1	4.0

* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

WHAT IF...? REVISIONS TO TREND ESTIMATES

EFFECT OF NEW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATES ON TREND ESTIMATES

TREND REVISIONS

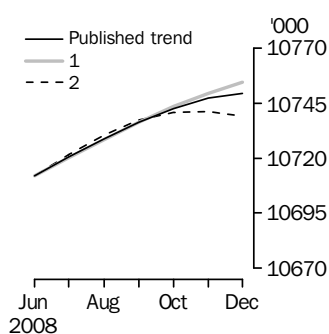
Each time new seasonally adjusted estimates become available, trend estimates are revised. This revision is a combined result of the concurrent seasonal adjustment process and the application of surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series (see paragraphs 25 to 33 of the Explanatory Notes).

The examples in the tables below show two illustrative scenarios and the consequent revisions to previous trend estimates of employment and the unemployment rate. The revisions in the scenarios below are only due to the use of surrogates of the Henderson average, as the impact of revision of the seasonally adjusted estimates can not be estimated in advance.

- (1) The January seasonally adjusted estimate is *higher* than the December estimate by:
0.26% for employment
1.80% for the unemployment rate
- (2) The January seasonally adjusted estimate is *lower* than the December estimate by:
0.26% for employment
1.80% for the unemployment rate

The percentage changes of 0.26% and 1.80% were chosen because they represent the average absolute monthly percentage changes in employment and the unemployment rate respectively.

EMPLOYMENT

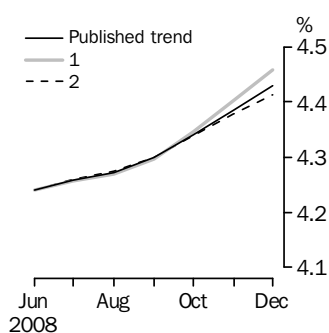


WHAT IF NEXT MONTH'S

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE IS:

	Trend as published	(1) 10 758.5 i.e. rises by 0.26%	(2) 10 735.0 i.e. falls by 0.26%
2008			
September	10 736.4	10 736.3	10 737.2
October	10 742.6	10 743.3	10 740.8
November	10 747.4	10 749.3	10 741.1
December	10 749.4	10 754.5	10 738.9

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



WHAT IF NEXT MONTH'S

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED ESTIMATE IS:

	Trend as published	(1) 4.5 i.e. rises by 1.80%	(2) 4.4 i.e. falls by 1.80%
2008			
September	4.3	4.3	4.3
October	4.3	4.3	4.3
November	4.4	4.4	4.4
December	4.4	4.5	4.4

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains estimates of the civilian labour force derived from the Labour Force Survey component of the Monthly Population Survey. The full time series for estimates from this publication are also available electronically – see *Labour Force, Australia, Spreadsheets* (cat. no. 6202.0.55.001). More detailed estimates are released one week after this publication in various electronic formats – see *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed – Electronic Delivery* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.001) and *Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly* (cat. no. 6291.0.55.003).

CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

2 The conceptual framework used in Australia's Labour Force Survey aligns closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of International Conferences of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts and structure of Australia's labour force statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling the estimates, are presented in *Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) which is available on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> .

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

3 The Labour Force Survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (currently about 22,800 houses, flats, etc.) and a list sample of non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about 0.24% of the population of Australia. Information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by specially trained interviewers.

4 The information is collected using computer-assisted interviewing (CAI), whereby responses are recorded directly onto an electronic questionnaire on a notebook computer. The CAI method was progressively implemented from October 2003 to August 2004, replacing the 'pen and paper' method previously used.

5 Households selected for the Labour Force Survey are interviewed each month for eight months, with one-eighth of the sample being replaced each month. The first interview is conducted face-to-face. Subsequent interviews are conducted by telephone (if acceptable to the respondent).

6 The interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Sunday between the 5th and 11th of each month. The information obtained relates to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week). Each year, to deal with operational difficulties involved with collecting and processing the Labour Force Survey around the Christmas and New Year holiday period, interviews for December start four weeks after November interviews start, and January interviews start five weeks after December interviews start. As a result, January interviewing may commence as early as the 7th or as late as the 13th, depending on the year. Occasionally, circumstances that present significant operational difficulties for survey collection can result in a change to the normal pattern for the start of interviewing.

7 Estimates from the Labour Force Survey are published first in this publication 32 days after the commencement of interviews for that month, with the exception of estimates for each December which are published 39 days after the commencement of interviews.

SCOPE OF SURVEY

8 The Labour Force Survey includes all persons aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

COVERAGE

9 In the Labour Force Survey, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection. The coverage rules are necessarily a balance between theoretical and operational considerations. Nevertheless, the chance of a person being enumerated at two separate dwellings in the survey is considered to be negligible.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

POPULATION BENCHMARKS

10 Labour Force Survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to add up to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are projections of the most recently released quarterly Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data. For information on the methodology used to produce the ERP see *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0). To create the population benchmarks for the Labour Force Survey, the most recently released quarterly ERP estimates are projected forward one quarter past the period for which they are required. The projection is based on the historical pattern of each population component - births, deaths, interstate migration and overseas migration. By projecting one quarter past that needed for the current population benchmarks, demographic changes are smoothed in, thereby making them less noticeable in the population benchmarks.

11 The ERP series are revised annually in the March quarter issue of *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0), released in September each year, to incorporate more up to date information available for the population components. The revised ERP estimates are used to update the quarterly population projections used in creating the Labour Force Survey population benchmarks. Benchmarks already used in producing Labour Force Survey estimates are not updated. A process of smoothing is used in the creation of population benchmarks to reduce the effect of these annual revisions to ERP estimates on the Labour Force Survey population benchmarks.

12 Every five years the ERP series are revised to incorporate additional information available from the latest Census of Population and Housing. Following the incorporation of Census information, the ERP series prior to the latest Census are final and subject to no further revision. Labour Force Survey population benchmarks, and the estimates, are revised following this 5-yearly revision in the ERP. From the February 2004 issue of this publication, labour force estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks based on the results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. Revisions were made in that issue to historical labour force estimates from January 1999 to January 2004.

ESTIMATION METHOD

13 The estimation method used in the Labour Force Survey is Composite Estimation, which was introduced in May 2007. Composite Estimation combines data collected in the previous six months with current month's data to produce the current month's estimates, thereby exploiting the high correlation between overlapping samples across months in the Labour Force Survey. The Composite Estimator combines the previous and current months' data by applying different factors according to length of time in the survey. After these factors are applied, the seven months of data are weighted to align with current month population benchmarks. For details see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007* (cat. no. 6292.0).

COMPARABILITY OF SERIES

14 From April 1986, the definition of employed persons was changed to include persons who worked without pay between 1 and 14 hours per week in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers). For further information, see paragraphs 36 and 37 of the Explanatory Notes to the February 1987 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0).

15 The ABS introduced telephone interviewing into the Labour Force Survey in August 1996. Implementation was phased in for each new sample group from August 1996 to February 1997. During the period of implementation, the new method produced different estimates than would have been obtained under the old methodology. The effect dissipated over the final months of implementation and was no longer discernible from February 1997. The estimates for February 1997 and onwards are directly comparable to estimates for periods prior to August 1996. For further details, see the feature article in the June 1997 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6203.0).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

COMPARABILITY OF SERIES

continued

16 From April 2001 the Labour Force Survey has been conducted using a redesigned questionnaire containing additional data items and some minor definitional changes. The definition of unemployed persons was changed to include all persons who were waiting to start work and were available to start in the reference week. This change was introduced in February 2004, when historical unit record data were revised from April 2001 to January 2004. This revision created a small trend break at April 2001 in unemployed persons and unemployment rate series. For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics* (cat. no. 6292.0), released in December 2003.

17 Core labour force series were revised in April 2001 for the period April 1986 to March 2001 for the remaining definitional changes introduced with the redesigned questionnaire, to reduce the impact of the changes on labour force series. For further details, see *Information Paper: Implementing the Redesigned Labour Force Survey Questionnaire* (cat. no. 6295.0) and *Information Paper: Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey* (cat. no. 6232.0).

18 In May 2007, an improved method of estimation, known as composite estimation, was introduced into the Labour Force Survey. In introducing this change the ABS revised unit record data from April 2001 to April 2007 based on the new estimation method. While estimates for periods prior to April 2001 are unrevised and were compiled using a different estimation method, no trend break was identified in the employed persons series. Also, no change was identified in the trend breaks in the unemployed persons and unemployment rate series which arose with the introduction of a redesigned survey form in April 2001 (as noted above in paragraph 16). For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007* (cat. no. 6292.0), released on 21 May 2007.

SURVEY SAMPLE REDESIGN

19 The Labour Force Survey sample has been reselected using information collected in the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

20 The bulk of the new sample was phased in over the period November 2007 to June 2008, with one-eighth of this portion of the sample being introduced every month. The remainder of the sample (about 20% of the total), which covers less settled areas of Australia and non-private dwellings was rotated in full for New South Wales, Western Australia, Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory in March 2008, and for Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania in April 2008. Such a pattern of implementation means that any changes to labour force estimates due to differences between the two samples, or any other influences, were spread over the eight months.

21 For further details, see *Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design* (cat. no. 6269.0), released on 28 November 2007.

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

22 Two types of error are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey: sampling error and non-sampling error.

23 Sampling error occurs because a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed. One measure of the likely difference resulting from not including all dwellings in the survey is given by the standard error. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors. Standard errors of key estimates for the latest month and of movements since the previous month of these estimates are shown on pages 28 and 29. Standard errors for other estimates and other movements may be calculated by using the spreadsheet contained in *Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube* (cat. no. 6298.0.55.001) which is available free of charge on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>> (Statistics).

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

continued

24 Non-sampling error arises from inaccuracies in collecting, recording and processing the data. Every effort is made to minimise reporting error by the careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers, and efficient data processing procedures. Non-sampling error also arises because information cannot be obtained from all persons selected in the survey. The Labour Force Survey receives a high level of co-operation from individuals in selected dwellings, with the average response rate over the last year being 97%. See Glossary for definition of response rate.

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION

25 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. This means that month-to-month movements of the seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

26 The Labour Force Survey uses the concurrent seasonal adjustment method to derive seasonal factors. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses data up to the current month to estimate seasonal factors for the current and all previous months. This process can result in revisions each month to estimates for earlier periods. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the seasonally adjusted estimates for the previous month and one year prior to the current month.

27 The revision properties of the seasonally adjusted and trend estimates can be improved by the use of Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) modelling. ARIMA modelling relies on the characteristics of the series being analysed to project future period data. The projected values are temporary, intermediate values, that are only used internally to improve the estimation of the seasonal factors. The projected data do not affect the original estimates and are discarded at the end of the seasonal adjustment process. The Labour Force Survey uses an ARIMA model for 95% of the individual time series. The ARIMA model is assessed as part of the annual reanalysis. For further details, see the feature article in *Australian Economic Indicators, Oct 2004* (cat. no. 1350.0).

28 Seasonal adjustment is able to remove the effect of events which occur at the same time in the survey every year. However, there are some events, like holidays, which are not always at the same time in the survey cycle or which are not at the same time across Australia. The effects of these types of events on Labour Force Survey estimates cannot in all cases be removed, because the pattern of their effects cannot be determined. However, two events which are adjusted for in the seasonally adjusted series are the January interview start date and the timing of Easter. For further details, see *Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics* (cat. no. 6292.0) released in December 2003.

29 While seasonal factors for the complete time series are estimated each month, they will continue to be reviewed annually at a more detailed level to take into account each additional year's original data. This annual review will not normally result in significant changes to published estimates. The review is usually conducted in February each year with the results released in the February issue of this publication.

30 The smoothing of seasonally adjusted series to produce 'trend' series reduces the impact of the irregular component of the seasonally adjusted series. These trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months except the last six. The last six monthly trend estimates are obtained by applying surrogates of the Henderson average to the seasonally adjusted series. Trend estimates are used to analyse the underlying behaviour of a series over time.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT AND TREND ESTIMATION *continued*

31 While this smoothing technique enables estimates to be produced for the latest month, it does result in revisions in addition to those caused by the revision of seasonally adjusted estimates. Generally, revisions due to the use of surrogates of the Henderson average become smaller, and after three months have a negligible impact on the series.

32 Trend estimates are published for the Northern Territory in table 10 and for the Australian Capital Territory in table 11. Unadjusted series for the two territories have shown, historically, a high degree of variability, which can lead to considerable revisions to the seasonally adjusted estimates each month when seasonal factors are estimated. For this reason, seasonally adjusted estimates are not currently published for the two Territories. In addition, caution should be exercised in the interpretation of trend estimates for the two territories, particularly for the three most recent months, where revisions may be relatively large.

33 For further information, see *A Guide to Interpreting Time Series – Monitoring Trends* (cat. no. 1349.0) or contact the Assistant Director, Time Series Analysis on (02) 6252 6345 or email time.series.analysis@abs.gov.au.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

34 Users may also wish to refer to *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (cat. no. 6105.0). This publication contains additional tables and a detailed list of related publications. For further information about this publication, please contact the Assistant Director, Labour Market Statistics on (02) 6252 7636.

35 ABS Information about the labour market can be found on the Labour theme page on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>(Themes), or from ABS Bookshops.

36 Information about current publications and other products released by the ABS is available from the statistics page on the ABS website. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website (Future Releases) which details products to be released in the week ahead.

DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

37 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available. Inquiries should be made to the Labour Force contact officer on (02) 6252 6525, email labourforce@abs.gov.au or to any ABS office.

EFFECTS OF ROUNDING

38 Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

39 Estimates of movement shown in this publication are obtained by taking the difference of unrounded estimates. The movement estimate is then rounded to one decimal place. Therefore where a discrepancy occurs between the reported movement and the difference of the rounded estimates, the reported movement will be more accurate.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

40 SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

'000	thousands
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
CAI	computer assisted interviewing
cat. no.	catalogue number
ERP	estimated resident population
f/t	full-time
LFS	Labour Force Survey
p/t	part-time
pts	percentage points
Seas adj.	seasonally adjusted
TAFE	Technical and Further Education

STANDARD ERRORS

STANDARD ERRORS

The estimates in this publication are based on information gained from the occupants of a sample survey of dwellings. Because the entire population is not surveyed, the published estimates are subject to sampling error. The most common way of quantifying such sampling error is to calculate the standard error for the published estimate or statistic. For more information, see paragraph 23 of the Explanatory Notes.

LEVEL ESTIMATES

To illustrate, let us say the published level estimate for employed persons aged 15–19 years is 700,000 and the associated standard error is 8,300. The standard error is then used to interpret the level estimate of 700,000. For instance, the standard error of 8,300 indicates that:

- There are approximately two chances in three that the real value falls within the range 691,700 to 708,300 ($700,000 \pm 8,300$)
- There are approximately nineteen chances in twenty that the real value falls within the range 683,400 to 716,600 ($700,000 \pm 16,600$).

The real value in this case is the result we would obtain if we could enumerate the total population.

The following table shows the standard errors for this month's level estimates.

										AUSTRALIA		
											
										Males	Females	Persons

STANDARD ERRORS *continued*

MOVEMENT ESTIMATES

The following example illustrates how to use the standard error to interpret a movement estimate. Let us say that one month the published level estimate for females employed part-time in Australia is 1,890,000; the next month the published level estimate is 1,900,000 and the associated standard error for the movement estimate is 9,500. The standard error is then used to interpret the published movement estimate of 10,000. For instance, the standard error of 9,500 indicates that:

- There are approximately two chances in three that the real movement between the two months falls within the range 500 to 19,500 (10,000 + or – 9,500)
- There are approximately nineteen chances in twenty that the real movement falls within the range –9,000 to 29,000 (10,000 + or – 19,000).

The following table shows the standard errors for this month's movement estimates.

										AUSTRALIA		
											
										Males	Females	Persons
Aged 15 years and over												
Employed												
Full time	'000	15.7	12.4	11.4	4.4	7.1	2.0	1.4	1.9	19.9	14.4	25.1
Part time	'000	9.8	8.2	6.8	3.1	4.5	1.3	0.7	1.1	8.5	13.1	15.5
Total	'000	18.7	15.0	14.9	6.0	8.9	2.4	1.5	2.2	21.7	19.6	30.4
Unemployed												
Looking for f/t work	'000	9.3	6.8	6.1	2.9	3.2	1.2	0.5	0.8	10.4	8.3	13.4
Looking for p/t work	'000	5.9	4.9	3.6	1.9	2.2	0.8	0.4	0.8	5.5	6.8	8.8
Total	'000	11.1	8.5	7.2	3.5	3.8	1.4	0.7	1.1	11.8	10.7	16.1
Labour force	'000	19.2	15.4	15.4	6.4	9.1	2.5	1.6	2.2	22.3	20.1	31.2
Not in labour force	'000	17.8	14.5	13.0	5.6	7.8	2.4	1.3	2.1	17.1	21.4	28.3
Unemployment rate												
Looking for f/t work	pts	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.2
Looking for p/t work	pts	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6	1.0	1.6	1.3	0.6	0.3	0.3
Total	pts	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1
Participation rate	pts	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.2
Aged 15–19 years												
Employed												
Full time	'000	3.0	2.4	2.8	1.1	1.9	0.5	0.3	0.4	4.4	3.4	5.1
Part time	'000	4.2	3.6	3.3	1.4	2.1	0.6	0.3	0.6	4.7	5.4	6.7
Total	'000	4.9	4.1	4.1	1.6	2.7	0.7	0.4	0.7	6.0	6.0	8.0
Unemployed												
Looking for f/t work	'000	3.6	2.4	2.4	1.1	1.4	0.6	0.2	0.3	4.3	3.1	5.4
Looking for p/t work	'000	3.9	3.5	2.5	1.2	1.3	0.5	0.2	0.6	4.1	4.4	6.0
Total	'000	5.4	4.2	3.6	1.6	1.9	0.8	0.3	0.7	6.0	5.4	8.1
Labour force	'000	5.3	4.4	4.3	1.8	2.8	0.8	0.5	0.7	6.4	6.3	8.6
Not in labour force	'000	6.0	4.8	3.9	1.8	2.6	0.8	0.5	0.7	6.9	6.5	9.0
Unemployment rate												
Looking for f/t work	pts	4.2	4.4	2.8	5.4	3.0	6.9	5.6	7.0	2.0	3.1	1.7
Looking for p/t work	pts	2.2	2.1	1.9	3.0	2.0	4.0	4.9	5.2	1.6	1.3	1.0
Total	pts	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.8	1.7	3.7	3.7	4.1	1.3	1.2	0.9
Participation rate	pts	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.8	2.3	3.0	3.0	0.9	0.9	0.6
Unemployment to population ratio – looking for f/t work	pts	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.9	1.4	1.4	0.6	0.4	0.4

GLOSSARY

Actively looking for work	Includes writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; answering an advertisement for a job; checking factory noticeboards or the touchscreens at the Centrelink offices; being registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker; checking or registering with any other employment agency; advertising or tendering for work; and contacting friends or relatives.
Attending full-time education	Persons aged 15–24 years enrolled at secondary or high school or enrolled as a full-time student at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week.
Attending school	Persons aged 15–19 years enrolled at secondary or high school in the reference week.
Attending tertiary educational institution full time	Persons aged 15–24 years enrolled full time at a TAFE college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week, except those persons aged 15–19 years who were still attending school.
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	All usual residents of Australia aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.
Composite Estimation	The estimation methodology used in the Labour Force Survey. Composite Estimation uses sample responses from nearby months as well as from the reference month to derive estimates for the reference month. This approach achieves gains in efficiency by exploiting the high similarity between the responses provided by the same respondent in previous months. For details see <i>Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007</i> (cat. no. 6292.0).
Employed	<p>All persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or ■ worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or ■ were employees who had a job but were not at work and were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or ■ away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or ■ away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or ■ on strike or locked out; or ■ on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or ■ were employers or own account workers, who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.
Employment to population ratio	For any group, the number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.
Full-time workers	Employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.
Labour force	For any group, persons who were employed or unemployed, as defined.
Labour force status	A classification of the civilian population aged 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.
Not in labour force	Persons who were not in the categories employed or unemployed as defined.

GLOSSARY *continued*

Participation rate	For any group, the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 years and over in the same group.
Part-time workers	Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.
Response rate	The number of fully responding dwellings expressed as a percentage of the total number of dwellings excluding sample loss. Examples of sample loss include: dwellings where all persons are out of scope and/or coverage; vacant dwellings; dwellings under construction; dwellings converted to non-dwellings; derelict dwellings; and demolished dwellings.
Seasonally adjusted series	A time series of estimates with the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation removed. See Explanatory Notes 25 to 29 for more detail.
Trend series	A smoothed seasonally adjusted series of estimates. See Explanatory Notes 30 to 33 for more detail.
Unemployed	Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or ■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.
Unemployed looking for full-time work	Unemployed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ actively looked for full-time work; or ■ were waiting to start a new full-time job.
Unemployed looking for part-time work	Unemployed persons who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ actively looked for part-time work only; or ■ were waiting to start a new part-time job.
Unemployment rate	For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.
Unemployment to population ratio	For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.

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